



VESTAL FIRE DISTRICT

1136 Front Street, Suite 01
Vestal • New York • 13850
Phone: 607-797-2756
www.vestalfiredistrict.org

**Board of
Fire Commissioners**
David Harrington
Daniel Kirchheimer
Thomas McCartney
Keith Purdy
Mark Tomko

Special Board of Fire Commissioner Meeting Minutes JUNE 16, 2026

1. Present Thomas McCartney, Chairman
Daniel Kirchheimer, Vice Chairman – Arrived at 6:53 p.m.
David Harrington, Commissioner
Mark Tomko, Commissioner
Keith Purdy, Commissioner

District Staff: Susan Bowen, Fire District Secretary
Erika Pereira, Assistant Fire District Secretary – Arrived at 6:32 p.m.
Paige Willes-Brown, Director of Purchasing
Marisa Butler, Fire District Treasurer - Absent
Clay Ellis, Director of Communications

Others Present: Charles Paffie, Assistant Fire Chief
Jon Weber, Station 1 Captain

2. Meeting was called to order by Commissioner McCartney at 6:30 p.m.

3. Commissioner McCartney led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Work Session for 2027 Fire District Budget with the District Chief and Assistant Chiefs

4.1 The budget being reviewed is a draft submitted by the department membership through the station chiefs and has already undergone a formal chiefs' review process. The meeting's primary objective is to systematically review each section of this budget with the department chief to address questions and align on priorities. A significant focal point is the proposed 52% overall increase in the operational fire equipment and communications equipment sections. Specifically, the communications equipment budget reflects a \$34,000 increase, while the operational fire equipment budget reflects an increase of \$92,000.

5. Unfinished Business - None

6. New Business

6.1 Secretary Susan Bowen was still looking for a station to conduct the Enhanced Lift Testing by Guthrie Occupational Medicine physical therapist. Captain Jon Weber offered Station 1 as the location for the test.

6.2 Interim Department Chief Paffie said the Fire Advisory Board had a lengthy discussion regarding a shortfall of NFPA/DOT-compliant 28-inch traffic cones. A strategic decision is needed on whether to equip every truck or use a dedicated traffic unit.



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7. Announcements

7.1 Next regular meeting is June 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at Station 3.

8. Public Input Session - None

9. Executive Session

9.1 Motion by Commissioner Purdy, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to go into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person(s) in accordance to NYS Public Offices Law section 105 (f) at 8:25 p.m.

All in Favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: None Absent: None.
Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Tomko, seconded by Commissioner Purdy, to conclude the executive session and re-enter the regular meeting at 9:26 p.m.

All in Favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: None Absent: None.
Motion Carried.

No action or decision was taken

10. Motion by Commissioner Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Tomko to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. All in Favor: 5 (McCartney, Kirchheimer, Harrington, Tomko, Purdy) Opposed: None Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Bowen
Fire District Secretary