

THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2025  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT

**PRESENT:** Chairman Phil Weber, Commissioners Terry Koch, Paul Latuso, William Koran, Chief Tom Smalling, Mayor Donna Koch, Roland Buzard, Village Administrator and Sr. Firehouse Attendant John McKenna.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Jim Clark, 1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief Dan Cross and 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief William Scherer.

**Meeting Called To Order At 6:00PM.**

**Minutes From The August 12, 2025 Meeting Approved.**

**Fire Warrant Approved In The Amount Of \$15,211.66.**

**Mayor Koch:**

Officiated the dedication of the two new ambulances prior to this meeting.

The Mayor introduced the adoption of the EMS Recovery Bill. In 2003 Governor Patterson mandated that Insurance companies must collect in the premiums for ambulance transportation. Northport is the last agency not billing in the Town of Huntington. This bill will offset the rising costs of running an ambulance service.

Proclaim is the company that will handle the billing. The Fire Department membership must give approval then Chief Smalling sends a letter to the Mayor and then approval by resolution needed by the Board of Trustees. Target date for implementation is March 2026.

**Chief Smalling:**

Dr. Gefken asked to respond to calls if needed but this would be a liability since he is not a member and not covered by insurance. Commissioner Koran said he can remain as a County Coordinator and will check on this further.

There will be a Memorial Service for 9-11 at the East Northport Fire Department at 8PM.

This year is the 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,

There will be an Open House on October 18 to "Meet Your Friend The Firefighter".

They are ready for standby for the Cow Harbor Race and Cow Harbor Day. Tom McCarthy will have EMTs and Paramedics to cover Cow Harbor Day.

Department Christmas Dinner will be December 12 at DelVino Vineyards.

Santa Run will be December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Tree Lighting will be November 28.

Thermal camera lens ordered.

When there is a gap in paramedic coverage, Gene Conner, a state certified medic has volunteered to cover the gap.

Items have been ordered for repairs to the 2-9-4.

**Commissioner Latuso:**

Discussed installing new antennas at other locations in the Ft. Salonga Area to improve radio communications.

Waiting for the Actuarial Report from Penflex from the Treasury Department. Then we can move forward with the possible extension of benefits for the LOSAP program. Discussion continued from last month with Roland Buzard to have an EMT at Headquarters instead of everyone located at Station One.

**Commissioner Terry Koch:**

The Truck Committee is looking into replacement of the 2021 inflatable rescue boat. Terry will have a proposal in October regarding a new heavy duty rescue truck which will take three years to build.

**John McKenna:**

- Rubber parking stops in place on the floor in the garage at Station One.
- Concrete windowsills cracked at Station One. John got one estimate of \$5,000.00 to replace all the windows. He will obtain other estimates.
- All Apparatus is being washed and waxed for the Cow Harbor parade.
- There were 7 work orders: 6 are complete and one pending parts/service.
- Annual NYS vehicle inspections are complete with the exception of medic's car which is scheduled for October.
- Kane Exterminating is removing a large hornet's nest from the Soundview radio Communications box.
- Sheetrock on the SCBA room ceiling has been replaced and will be painted.
- 14 new Scott bottles received from South Shore Fire Equipment and placed in service.
- Total alarms for month of August were 134.
- Highway Department looked at the gutters and leaders problem at Station One.
- Waiting for Commander Fleet to give a start date to address items on Truck Committee's punch list for the 2-9-5 ambulance.
- We are updating the Red Alert bulletin monitors at Headquarters.
- DOH 1881 Papers for the 2-9-25 submitted to the State portal on August 8<sup>th</sup>. We are waiting the certification decals to be sent from the State DOH Buffalo office. We have written authorization from the State DOH to operate 2-9-25 which has been in service for several weeks.
- On behalf of the Fire Department's employees, we extend our sympathy to Commissioner Koran and his family on the passing of his mother Elizabeth "Betty" Koran.

**Meeting Adjourned At 7:00 PM.**

**Next Meeting Scheduled For Tuesday, October 14, 2025 At 6:00 PM.**