

West Corners Fire District
Regular Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2025

Attending:

Commissioner Reed
Commissioner Davis
Commissioner Griffith
Commissioner Sinclair
Commissioner Heide

M. Schroedel, Treasurer
B. Homa, Secretary
M. Loveland, Chief

Guests:

S. Brookes
K. Rogers
B. Haight

Chairman of the Board Reed called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Motion was made by Griffith, second by Heide to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on September 17, 2025. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Griffith, second by Heide to accept the minutes from the Special Meeting held on October 15, 2025. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Griffith, second by Heide to accept the minutes from the Budget Hearing held on October 21, 2025. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Griffith, second by Heide to accept the minutes from the Special Meeting held on October 21, 2025. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Communications:

1. Mileage ace report for September
2. Financial reports for September
3. Har-Rob tax exempt form request
4. Cancer roster from insurance for updating
5. Approval of the FEMA grant
6. LOSAP public notice and voting referendum
7. Statement of credit with Empire Natural Gas Corporation
8. Quote for generator contract
9. Resignation letter from Mary Taylor
10. Confirmation of frozen long distance on phone line 607-748-2088
11. Copy of letter to Empire Natural Gas Corporation of credit on account
12. Statement of values from NBT insurance
13. Notice from Broome County elections of station use for general election Nov 4
14. Snow removal quote from Nauti Dog Industries
15. Capital district fall educational seminar Nov 1
16. Confirmation that the tax cap override was submitted to OSC
17. Applications for Dee Kochinsky, James Pendergast
18. Email notice from FEMA that the deadline for grant acceptance has be extended to Nov 24th due to the governmental shut down
19. Todd Woodward quote for cleaning and grass cutting
20. Letter from Auxiliary re: Coffee maker

Treasurer's Report: Balances as of September 30, 2025

NBT Payroll Account	\$	1,411.46
NBT Operating	\$	10,341.11

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NBT Repair Reserve Fund	\$ 45,402.77
NBT Account 2	\$ 11,425.85
NBT Grant Reserve	\$ 12,902.55
NBT Fire App Equip Reserve	\$ 391,644.67
NBT Building Reserve	\$ 532,518.07
NBT Fire Apparatus Acct 2	\$ 90,396.17
NBT Account 3	\$ 9,326.75
NBT Fire App/Equip Acct 3	\$ 210,902.47
NBT General Fund	\$ 267,963.22
M&T Operating	\$ 928.87
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,585,163.96

- Treasurer's report submitted and Chief Mileage report submitted to the Board
- FEMA award acceptance deadline extended to November 24, 2025
- Tax Cap Form submitted to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)
- Email sent to AFDSNY lawyer Joe Frank regarding EMT course eligibility for stipend. No response yet.
- I will be meeting with Steve Komor of M&F to review suggested journal entries this Friday.
- No word from New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) regarding DHSES E-Grants - Project RR25-1046-E00
- Budget Transfer Motions:
Decrease Computer Budget \$500, Increase Assoc Dues District \$500
Decrease Building & Grounds \$3,500, Increase B&G Maintenance \$3,500
Decrease Fire App Repairs \$3,000, Increase Training Department \$3,000
- Received an email stating the deadline to accept the FEMA grant, has been extended to November 24

Motion made by Heide, second by Sainclair to accept the treasurer's report as given. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Griffith, second by Sainclair to pay all the bills, check numbers 1751 to 1790. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Heide, second by Davis to pay the Matco invoice for the recent service, upon receipt of the invoice. Although Matco was the higher bidder, the contract was awarded to Matco using the Best Value Resolution the board passed last month. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Guest Fire personnel left the meeting to respond to a fire

Training:

1. Jeremy Hartman – BEFO starting on Saturday, Oct 4, 2025, at Chenango Fire
 - a. Email sent 10/4

Committee Reports:

1. Matco repaired all the lighting issues yesterday
2. Petcosky also was here to do sprinkler testing yesterday
3. Culligan is coming tomorrow to check the water softener as it has not used any salt since it was installed in May
4. LOSAP does not need a public hearing; all set for the December elections

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5. Sainclair spoke about the Avangrid giving program
6. Starting to get some drawings back on the new vehicle. Cost ~1.3 million. Sainclair reaching out to Sourcewell for a presentation.

Fire Prevention: See attached report from September

CHIEF:

1. Parts for Engine 29-11 have come in, waiting on scheduling from Ward
2. SCBA PMs were completed
3. Hurst PM was completed
4. Ariel PM – Nov 15
5. Issue found with the micro switch on the ladder bed
 - a. Chief Dean is working on this
6. Bail-out Trainers - M. Loveland, M. Dean, N. Steinhiser, A. Kase, R. Schroedel, M. Travis
7. Issues with two pairs of new PPE pants. The dealer has them and is fixing them.
8. Coats should be here within a week or two
9. Chief Steinhiser Tahoe is in for repair
10. U-29 is out for repair
11. Lost a section of forestry hose from M/A brush fire.
12. Task force one course is moving to the beginning of 2026. Working on dates
13. State Fire Instructors want to host a BEFO class at our station on Monday & Wednesdays beginning January 12

Requests:

1. Laptop for the Chief's office

Call Stats:

1. Fire 100% answered
2. EMS 50% answered

Total Hours: 38 hours

New Engine Committee: Nothing new since the work session

COMPANY:

1. Truck or Treat on Oct 31
2. Nominations for officers will begin in November

GUESTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Motion made by Griffith, second by Heide to remove the recycle dumpster. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution to override real property tax cap for the 2026 budget was offered by Heide, second by Sainclair. Resolution passed by the following roll call vote:
Reed – AYE; Griffith – AYE; Davis – AYE; Heide – AYE; Sainclair - AYE

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2. Resolution to approve the Final Budget for 2026 was offered by Griffith, second by Davis. Resolution passed by the following roll call vote:
Reed – AYE; Griffith – AYE; Davis – AYE; Heide – AYE; Sainclair – AYE
3. Resolution was offered by Sainclair, second by Heide to set the Annual District voting date as December 9, 2025 from 6 – 9 pm. The resolution passed with the following roll call vote:
Reed – AYE; Griffith – AYE; Davis – AYE; Heide – AYE; Sainclair – AYE
4. Motion made by Sainclair, second by Heide to purchase a new laptop for the Chief's office. Purchase price is \$899.99. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Motion made by Heide, second by Griffith to accept the contract for the yearly PM on the generator at a cost of \$1,012.18. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion made by Heide, second by Sainclair to accept the quote from TW Cleaning for cleaning (\$400) the station next year and grass cutting (\$90 for both stations). All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion made by Sainclair, second by Griffith to accept the quote from Nauti Dog Industries for snow and salting for winter storms. The motion passed with the following vote: AYE: Reed, Griffith, Davis, Sainclair, Abstain: Heide
8. Motion was made by Griffith, second by Davis to make the following budget transfers:
Decrease Computer Budget \$500, and increase Association Dues District \$500
Decrease Building & Grounds \$3,500, and increase B&G Maintenance \$3,500
All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion made by Griffith, second by Sainclair, to approve BEFO training for J. Hartman. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
10. Motion made by Sainclair, second by Heide to allow the state instructors to use our station for a BEFO class beginning on January 12, 2026. The class will work around the nights that we need to use the training room. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
11. Motion made by Griffith, second by Heide to pay one third of the cost of the new coffee maker (\$82) purchased by the auxiliary. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Applications:

1. Motion was made by Heide, second by Sainclair to reinstate Dee Kochinsky as an active member of the fire auxiliary. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion was made by Heide, second by Sainclair to accept the application of James Pendergast. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Heide, second by Davis to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty J Homa

Betty J. Homa, District Secretary
Electronically signed

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**West Corners
Fire Department**

**FPO Report
2025**



**Bureau of Fire Prevention
Monthly Incident Report
Sep-25**

Alarm Types	# of Alarms	Alarm Hours	Mutual Aid	Given	Received
Fire	15		Endicott		
E.M.S.	13		Endwell		
Error			Vestal	1	
Totals	28		West Endicott	3 (3)	
"On Duty"	0		Union Center		
			Maine	5 (5)	
			Newark Valley		
			Owego	1	
			Campville		
			Berkshire		
			East Maine		
			Glen Aubrey		
NFIRS submitted			Whitney Point		
cc Board of Fire Commissioners			Apalachin		
cc Chief			Silver Lake (PA)		
			Johnson City		

(#) indicates number of automatic mutual aid/standby calls

*BGM Airport



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RESOLUTION: Override real property tax cap for the 2026 budget

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Corners Fire District must adopt a proposed budget for 2026 and estimate the fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and did so in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Corners Fire District held the annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 21, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the proposed budget and comments received on the proposed budget on October 21, 2025 at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the financial needs of the fire district and fire department for fiscal year 2026 cannot be supported by a budget that would comply with the real property tax cap established pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law as the proposed budget for 2026 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2% increase in said tax levy; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law provides as follows:

A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, not including any levy necessary to support the expenditures pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) of paragraph g of subdivision two of this section, only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only, or in the case of a district or fire district, a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby approves a determination to override the real property tax cap for the 2026 budget only in order to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2% increase in said tax levy and result in a final annual fire district budget in the amount of \$638,190.00, and

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Reed: AYE
Commissioner Griffith: AYE
Commissioner Davis: AYE
Commissioner Heide: AYE
Commissioner Sainclair: AYE

The resolution was thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

Dated: Endicott, NY
October 22, 2026

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VOTING RESOLUTION OF THE WEST CORNERS FIRE DISTRICT

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Corners Fire District, in the Town of Union, Broome County, New York was held at the West Corners Fire Station No. 1, 500 Day Hollow Road, Endicott, New York on October 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm. There were present ~~Byron~~ Reed, Daniel Griffith, John Davis, Michael Heide, and Kerby Sainclair.

Also present: Betty J. Homa, Fire District Secretary, and Matthew Schroedel Fire District Treasurer.

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Sainclair, who moved its adoption:

WHEREAS Section 175 of the Town Law provides a system for an annual Fire District election of officers; and

WHEREAS every elector of the Town who shall be a registered voter and who shall have resided in the district for the period of 30 days next preceding the election shall be qualified to vote for such officers; and

WHEREAS the district has not adopted additional personal registration pursuant to Section 175-a of the Town Law for persons not registered with the Board of Election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Annual Election of the West Corners Fire District shall be held on December 9, 2025 at Fire Station No. 1, said date being the second Tuesday in December as prescribed by law, for the following purposes:

- a) To elect a Fire Commissioner for a full term of five (5) years commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2030 (term of Daniel Griffith expires).
- b) To establish a service award program for active volunteer firefighter members of the West Corners Fire Department.

2. Paper Ballots will be used and the polls shall be open from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

3. Nominating petitions must be filed with the Fire District Secretary on or before November 19, 2025, said date being at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the Annual Election. Each of said nominating petitions filed, shall be subscribed by not less than twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the district.

4. In lieu of a petition, the Board of Commissioners will accept a letter of intent in accordance with §176 of Town Law resolving that those persons wishing to be a candidate for Commissioner shall submit a letter of intent to the District Secretary, 500 Day Hollow Rd., Endicott, NY 13760, on or before November 19, 2025, said date being at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the Annual Election. This letter of intent shall indicate which office and the term for which the individual wishes to run. The Board reserves the right to invalidate the letter of intent if the office and term are not indicated.

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5. The Fire District Secretary is hereby directed to publish the notice of said Annual Election (in the form annexed hereto) in the Press & Sun Bulletin on or after November 5, 2025, and prior to November 12, 2025.

6. After the polls have been closed, the Election Inspectors shall immediately canvass publicly the ballots cast and the Chairman shall announce the results and within seventy-two (72) hours thereafter, the Chairman and the Election Inspectors shall execute and file a Certificate of the results of the canvass with the Board of Fire Commissioners and with the Town Clerk of the Town of Union.

7. The following resident electors of the Fire District are hereby appointed to constitute the West Corners Fire District Board of Elections for preparing the registration rolls and for the 2025 Annual Fire District Election:

Chairperson	Rachelle White
Inspector of Election	Rebecca Kruczowski

8. The Chairperson, Election Inspectors and Clerk shall each be compensated in the amount of \$50.00 for their services in preparing the registration records and attendance at the Annual Election.

9. In case any of the members appointed herein are unable or refuse to assume or perform the duties required of them, the Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners shall have the power and duty to appoint alternates who are resident electors.

10. If additional clerical help is deemed necessary, the Board of Fire Commissioners will consider the appointment of such clerical persons upon request of the Chairman of the Fire District Board of Election.

11. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

The Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Heide

Upon roll call, the vote resulted as follows:

	Aye	No
Commissioner Reed	<u>X</u>	_____
Commissioner Griffith	<u>X</u>	_____
Commissioner Davis	<u>X</u>	_____
Commissioner Heide	<u>X</u>	_____
Commissioner Sinclair	<u>X</u>	_____

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution adopted.

Betty J. Homa
Betty J. Homa, District Secretary
Electronically signed