

# MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT FOURTEEN

## MEETING MINUTES

**March 19, 2026, 9:00 AM  
Maynard Fire Department**

### Present:

Chief Sorrows	Chief Arnum	A/Chief Murphy	Chief Miller	Chief Young
Chief Lawless	A/Chief Kelley	Chief Gogan	A/Chief Latta	A/Chief Ripley
Chief Choate	A/Chief Gordon	Chief Nelson	Deputy Doucet	Chief Evers
Deputy Harrington	Chief McPherson	A/Chief Hayes		

### Absent:

Ashland	Boxborough	Framingham	Hopedale	Hopkinton
Natick	Northborough	Sherborn	Shrewsbury	Southborough

### Meeting called to order at 9:03 AM

- Acceptance of February minutes. Motion was made by Chief Lawless, seconded by Chief Choate, and voted unanimously to accept the February minutes as presented.

### MEMA Update

- No MEMA staff are present but Chief Lawless offers that Foxborough, MA has approved FIFA funding.

### Treasurer

- Chief McPherson presented the March Treasurer's Report. Motion made by Chief Lawless, seconded by A/Chief Ripley, and voted unanimously to accept the March Treasurer's report as read.
- FY27 proposed budget discussion presented by Chief McPherson. Itemized list offered by Chief Arnum for SAFE Trailer supplies. Approximately \$3,000.00 in estimated costs/needs. Chief Arnum states she spoke with DFS, and the cost of a new trailer is exorbitant. She also stated that she will apply for a new grant if one is reinstated. Chief McPherson makes a motion to use \$1,755.00 from available Training funds and \$1,245.00 from available Communication funds in the sum of \$3,000.00 to pay for the SAFE trailer repairs, seconded by Chief Evers and voted unanimously to fund the SAFE trailer repairs.
- Chief Young asks Chief Sorrows what he spent on the tires for the trailer. Chief Lawless states that we should have money left in the budget to reimburse Carlisle if they provide a receipt for the purchase.

- Chief Lawless states that A/Chief Latta had previously discussed purchasing uniforms for the Fire Investigation team and the request was tabled. Chief Latta is approved to spend \$2,500.00 on FIT uniforms.
- The FY27 operating Budget will be voted on at the April 2027 meeting. Deputy Doucet has a question on the meaning of free cash. Chief McPherson explains the meaning and what happens with it.
- Chief McPherson brings up Capital budget and what we should be looking at to spend funds on. He states that our radios/repeaters are approximately 20 years old. Repeaters are located in Concord and Hopkinton. Chief Choate explains the North and South repeaters, patches, two different channels and how the link works. Much discussion ensues regarding Holbrook assisting and Chief McPherson asks about cost to District to which Chief Choate responds that Director Hook says not to worry about cost. A/Chief Kelley offers that site plan cost and building plan cost were not made clear in Holliston. Chief Choate will reach out to see if preventative maintenance is needed. Mass Tactical plan has to be on everyone's radios. People have issues with changing zones on radios.
- Boston Marathon Monday should be a no burn day. Holbrook does not announce that. Discussion surrounding dispatch announcing that during test. Fire MOBI has no availability during Marathon as well.

### **Submitted Committee Report Questions or Comments**

- Chief Young shares that CISM needs police officers, as he only has 4 or 5. NEMLEC is more business than personal. Chief Evers agrees. Chief Gogan asks if Chiefs can please be notified if CISM will be coming to help. A/Chief Kelley asks if Chiefs can be notified about all team activations.
- Chief Lawless shares that she reached out to NERAC regarding Chief Young and the choice was specific to fire and not D-14.
- A/Chief Latta asks about the Tech Rescue report and if they researched the cost of the Med Spec classes and that it is roughly \$3,300.00 per person. Chief Arnum shares that the course is 53 hours long. Deputy Harrington states that NERAC is now reimbursing 100%. Discussion about available or writing a grant for this class. Chief Arnum shares that Mass Task Force usually has unfilled spaces. Chief Doucet brings up medical control protocol. Chief Miller offers the difficulties involved.

### **Old Business**

- Chief Young shares update on Car 14. They have started FY25 projects and will be reaching out when they need more information. It is \$250,000.00 for Car 14.

## **New Business**

- Chief McPherson asks about the training budget and options for Fire Officer and Fire Instructor next year. Much discussion ensues about options as a District. No MFA classes are available. Chief Miller stresses the long waiting times of the academy. More discussion about holding our own District classes. Call Firefighters going through the career recruit program. Chief Choate drafted an email and was informed that it is being addressed. The Assistant Fire Marshall does not know how it happened. Chief Miller states they do not backfill classes anymore at the MFA. A/Chief Murphy adds the MFA is trying to be a college campus when they are actually a trade school. In order to be an Officer, you must first be an instructor. Chief Lawless asks if we should up our training budget and hold our own training. Chief Miller shares that MCTI is a phenomenal training company from New Jersey with which he has dealt. Chief McPherson asks that the Training committee figure out what is the greatest priority of the district and we will discuss it at a future meeting. Chief Choate will do some research and bring it back to the April meeting.
- Chief Lawless states that she is getting some interest in the openings for several committees so we will table that until next month.
- FY27 budget vote, After Action report and Training options will all be discussed next month.
- Chief Lawless informs us of the date of the June meeting at Firefly's changing from the Friday of past years.
- Our next meeting is in Stow, April 16, 2026.
- Chief Young asks who is taking over the website and is informed that it is Chief Whitney who is on vacation today.

Chief Lawless makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chief McPherson and voted unanimously to accept.

## **Meeting adjourned at 10:09 AM**

Respectfully submitted,

*Dianne Arsenault*  
Coordinator