

**TOWN OF CLAYTON FIRE DISTRICT
ANNUAL ORGINIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2026 AT 7:00 PM
Clayton Fire Department Meeting Room**

MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Pledge of Allegiance 7:00 PM**
- II. Roll Call of Board Members/Affirmation of Quorum**-Commissioners Present: Scott Johnson, Christopher Barton, Robert Haver, Justin Taylor, Matthew Morgia, Jeff Dickey; Excused; Hal Matthews. Sec/Treas Luci LaPierre
Others present: District Chief Josh Reome, Deputy District Chief Chris Garceau, Ethan Patchen
District Structure for 2026
 - a) Nomination and Election of Chairman-Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to nominate Justin Taylor as chairman, 2nd by Commissioner Barton. Justin accepted. Secretary cast one ballot for Justin Taylor as chairman.
 - b) Nomination and Election of Vice Chairman-Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to nominate Christopher Barton as vice-chairman, 2nd by Commissioner Johnson. Secretary cast one ballot for Christopher Barton as vice-chairman.
 - c) Selection of Commissioners for Leadership of Specific Functions of the District
 1. Insurance-Justin Taylor
 2. Reserves-Ben Barton
 3. Company Representative
 - a. Clayton-Scott Johnson
 - b. Depauville-Jeff Dickey
 4. Building Representatives
 - a. Clayton-Justin Taylor
 - b. Depauville-Bob Haver
 - d) Secretary/Treasurer
 1. Selection and Compensation-Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to appoint Lucianne LaPierre as Sec/Treas with annual compensation of \$15,000, 2nd by Commissioner Barton. Carried
 - e) Deputy Secretary Administrative Assistant to the District Chief
 2. Selection and Compensation-none at this time
 - f) Designation of:
 1. Official Newspaper-TI Sun, Watertown Times
 2. Depository of Funds-Community Bank, Watertown Savings Bank, NY Class
 3. Attorney Representation-Kevin Mahoney from Mahoney Law Firm, PLLC
 4. Spokesperson for the District for the Press-Scott Johnson
 5. Location and Times for the 2026 meetings-Accepted
 6. Location for posting general announcements and meeting changes-Website, Newspapers, Town bulletin board
 - g) Review of the District Mission Statement Adopted November 13, 1995:
"To provide quality emergency services to all citizens in the most cost-effective manner; to facilitate relationship between the fire companies, governments, and citizens; to develop a long-range plan to ensure that quality equipment and services will continue to be available."
- III. Approval of the Minutes** of December 10, 2025-Motion made by Commissioner Dickey to approve minutes with corrections, seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried.
- IV. Approval of Abstract**- Motion made by Commissioner Johnson to approve abstract with addition, seconded by Commissioner Haver. Carried.

V. Financial Report-Treasurer

- A. Monthly Financial Update & Reports for December 2025
- B. Budget Transfers-Motion made by Commissioner Haver to approve 2025 budget transfers as presented, 2nd by Commissioner Johnson. Carried.

VI. Correspondence

- A. Email from Bobby Cantwell to quote insurance. Justin will reach out to all the area insurance agencies for quotes
- B. Email from NYS OSC-review of tax cap
- C. Pivot - Q3 Statistics
- D. Utica Insurance - Rate Increase

VII. District Chief Report

29 calls in December

271 calls for 2025

EZ Meter 1/9/2026

Bank #1 136300

Bank #2 132871

Bank #3 136719

Annual Report given by Chief Reome as well as reports on training, classes, PM's, and apparatus.

Moton made by Commissioner Haver, 2nd by Commissioner Barton to approve Chief's use of 14-7-2 to attend training in Montour Falls February 9-13, 2026. Carried.

FEMA Grant-Josh is working on the reports required to be completed to request funds.

Banquet will be held on January 17, 2026

Purchase Requests: none

VIII. Policies

- A. Camera, Key Fob Data & Media Retention Policy-tabled

IX. Old Business

- A. Grants-NYS is offering a grant of \$25M for infrastructure.
- B. Depauville Station Committee-Chris will help with grant. Matt offered to help as well. Hal and Jeff have been working with Scott and will continue to.
- C. Company Elections (tentatively approved in December)-Motion by Commissioner Barton, seconded by Commissioner Dickey to accept all nominated officers. Carried.
 - 1. District Chief-Josh Reome
 - 2. Deputy District Chief-Chris Garceau
 - 3. Clayton Station Chief-Jacob Angus
 - 4. Depauville Station Chief-Curtis Harvey
 - 5. Clayton Captain-Michale Patchen
 - 6. Depauville Captain-Kevin Warren
- D. IamResponding Update-Josh and Ethan updated the board on the pros and cons of IamResponding and recommendation. Motion by Commissioner Haver to approve a 1-year subscription at a cost of \$810.00, seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried.
- E. Social Hall Roof-tabled-board discussion with insight from Commissioner Morgia. Discussion regarding the NYS grant opportunity.
- F. NERIS update on zone coverage-Chris updated the board that the county confirmed there is insurance coverage. The recommendation is to alternate with Alex Bay for daytime coverage.
- G. IT-Ethan heard back from North Shore Solutions and they are able move over to the .gov.
- H. Adobe Update-Ethan-all will need to sign up and pay then submit for tax exemption to have tax refunded.

XI. New Business

A. NY Grant Opportunity-(see Grants under Old Business)

B. Hyde Stone Quote-Gas Valve Replacement at Depauville Social Hall-tabled

XII. Public Comment-

XIV. Other Business-

XV. Adjourn-Motion made by Commissioner Barton to adjourn at 8:32 pm, seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Carried.