

**South Salem Fire District
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2026**

Meeting was called to order at 7pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chief Yorke

Present Commissioners: Bauer, Lombardi, Amerling, Gossett, Scott

Department Officers: Chief Yorke, Assistant Chief Davison

District Employees: Treasurer Blum, Property Manager Andros, Secretary Mansfield

Approval of March 9th District Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the March 9th District Meeting minutes by Commissioner Lombardi, second Amerling, and all voted in favor with the exception of Commissioner Bauer, who abstained.

Public Comment Period - none

Chiefs Report - attached and distributed to the Board

Equipment Requests

(1) Pair of Pro -Warrington boots requested for Firefighter Barney Baldwin at a cost of \$541.50 from Hi-Tech on NYS Contract # PC70805.

Red Alert software upgrades (Mapping, Pre-plans and Hydrant modules) for an annual cost increase of \$1,985 from Alpine Software.

Apparatus

Engine 166	NYS Inspection completed at Stronghold Mechanical on March 24th.
Engine 167	DOT Inspection completed at Stronghold Mechanical on March 18th.
Rescue 21	NYS Inspection completed at Stronghold Mechanical on March 23rd.
Tanker 2	DOT Inspection completed at Stronghold Mechanical on March 19th.
Utility 79	NYS Inspection completed at Salem Auto on April 10th.
Car 2451	NYS Inspection, oil change and tire rotation completed at Salem Auto on March 24th. Salem Auto recommends replacement of front and rear brake pads and rotors with dealer parts at a total cost of \$1,828.24.

Membership - On average, 12 Members (7 Interior) responded per call in of March.

Training Requests

Annual AED & CPR Training for 18 Members completed on March 30th.

Vehicle Extrication Drill conducted by WCDES at Vista FD completed on March 16th. Basic Firefighter Skills Training completed on March 23rd.

Firefighter Cancer Awareness Training hosted by Vista FD scheduled for April 13th. Hydrant Maintenance scheduled for April 20th and April 27th.

Vehicle Lifting & Cribbing scheduled for May 4th

Vehicle Extrication scheduled for May 11th.

Live Fire Training in-house vehicle fires drill scheduled for May 18. Requested quotes from both Sal's Servicenter and Salem Auto to prep a vehicle per NFPA 1403 standard for vehicle fires. Received verbal quote from Sal's Servicenter for \$450 and Salem Auto quote for \$450, but declined to perform work.

Recruitment 4/29 and 4/30 at JJHS

Vehicle Fire Training scheduled for May 18th.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of one pair of boots for Barney Baldwin for \$541.50 was made by Commissioner Scott, second Lombardi, all voted in favor.

A motion was made to approve the Red Alert software upgrades for an annual cost increaser of \$1,985 was made by Commissioner Scott, second Lombardi, all voted in favor.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of front and rear brake pads and rotors for Car 2451 in the amount of \$1,828.24 by Commissioner Scott, second Lombardi, all voted in favor.

A motion was made to approve expenditure of \$450 for Sal's Servicenter to prep a car for live fire training by Commissioner Scott, second Gossett, all voted in favor.

A motion was made to approve \$1,400 for Signal 73 live fire training (if needed) by Commissioner Scott, second Gossett, all voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Budget YTD vs Actual, Intermonth - Transfers, Deposits Received, Bank Statement

Reconciliation reports

Approval of Treasurers Report

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report, with the addition of Knight security, pending receipt of voucher. The motion was made by Commissioner Lombardi, second Gossett, all voted in favor.

Audit of Pending Claims

A motion to approve the claims was made by Commissioner Lombardi, second Gossett, all voted in favor.

Commissioner Amerling reports that the bank statements have been reconciled without exception.

Treasurer Blum advises the board that the Positive Pay program is moving forward.

Correspondence

SSFD - Chief Yorke informs the board that probationary trainee member Anthony Carelli has been elected to full active Membership.

SSFD - Chief Yorke informs the board that Department Membership voted unanimously to appoint Chief Matthew Yorke, 1st Assistant Chief Michael Davison, and 2nd Assistant Chief Michael Wetzel. Board approval is requested.

Registration and Inspection of MA-22. MA-22 is insured, and does not necessitate inspection. Commissioner Amerling requests that Property Andros retain letter from insurance carrier that MA-22 does not need to be registered.

Letter of Complaint - To be discussed during executive session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lombardi to approve the appointments of Chief Matthew Yorke, 1st Assistant Chief Michael Davison, and 2nd Assistant Chief Michael Wetzel.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gossett, and all voted in favor.

District Property Report

Building Usage - 4/30 Blood Drive - South Salem Firehouse

Administration

Verizon - Secretary Mansfield reported that service to the 3706 number has been restored as of Monday, 4/13. The solution is a wireless hook up successfully forwarding incoming calls to the 3706 line. This solution is expected to suffice until FIOS becomes available.

Positive Pay back up plan - Treasurer Blum advises that additional help will be needed.

District policy review - Commissioner Scott expects to update the board at the May meeting.

Commissioner Lombardi indicated that the firefighter physical assessment policy needs to be updated and that he will have a report in May.

Unfinished Business

Pending Projects: Firehouse Entrance Alterations Commissioner Gossett advises that Jennings will be finishing next month. At that time the board will review work and approve final payment of balance to Jennings.

Live Fire Training - n/r

Truck Replacement Committee - Chief Yorke has reached out to Hudson Valley and has yet to receive a response.

NYS Police Investigation - Commissioner Amerling provided Secretary Mansfield with a copy of the statement he gave to NYS Police (dated 3/12/26).

Chief Yorke will follow up with the Department President to send letter of donation of the Polaris.

New Business

Fire House Roof Replacement - The board will revisit Fall 2026 - Spring 2027.

Oscaleta Road Bridge - Commissioner Lombardi advises the board that the dry hydrant will be installed when the Oscaleta Road culvert is replaced. A copy of Commissioner Lombardi's remarks given at the town (culvert) meeting are added to the record.

The Department of Labor prevailing wage schedule for landscaping has been given to the board by Commissioner Lombardi.

Commissioner Lombardi informs the board that Senator Harckham is open to accepting a grant application for airpicks. Commissioner Lombardi has communicated with Senator Harckham's office, and updates to the board are forthcoming.

A motion to enter into executive session regarding personnel was made by Commissioner Scott, second Lombardi, all voted in favor.

The board entered into executive session at 8:21, and exited at 8:38.

The meeting was closed at 8:38.

The next District Meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2026.

Beth Mansfield

Secretary

South Salem Fire District