BOLTON FIRE COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 12, 2026

BOLTON FIRE HOUSE AND ZOOM – 7:00 P.M.

Fire Commission Chairman John Morianos convened the Bolton Fire Commission meeting at 7:00 P.M. at the Bolton Fire House.

Commission members present: Chairman John Morianos, Chris Moquin and Robert Langton were in attendance. Elizabeth Malone and Daniel Moquin attended via zoom. Also present was Deputy Chief Matthew Perreira and Fire Marshal William Call. Chief Bruce Dixon was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CORRESPONDENCE – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve the July 27, 2026 meeting minutes with the following correction. Under Communication from the chief – second bullet, "The Strategic Plan was discussed" was removed. (RL/CM). No meeting scheduled for August 2026 and September 2026 meeting was cancelled.

PAYMENT OF BILLS –Bills for August, September and October were circulated.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF –

- Calls for August and September 2026 total of 83
- October to date - 19 YTD = 455 Calls
- Hebron structure fire
- Multiple motor vehicle accidents, some with extrication
- Storm related calls with trees and wires down
- Budget: Regular purchase order requests and payments
- Bolton Road Race was in September. 8 members participated in controlling traffic and EMS standby.
- Bolton and Andover Fire Departments training at a live burn at ECFS on Saturday, October 10, 2026.
- Strategic Planning Committee: Multiple meetings with many stakeholders in the Town government, Bolton Volunteer Fire Department and Fire Commission, Mutual Aid chiefs and TN. Follow up phone calls. A lot of paperwork and records were requested and delivered. Chief Dixon is anticipating a meeting with the James Ruppert, Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen in the next month to present a final document.
- The Capital Improvement Plan paperwork is due October 15, 2026. The BVFD is requesting submission of past requests and adding SCBA.
- Radio Communications - The FEMA Grant that was submitted with Tolland and Somers fire departments appears to not have been approved. We have upgraded the apparatus mobile radios to the new Dual Band UHF / 700-800 mz radios. Officer portables have been ordered and are expected in the next month.
- Gear dryer was approved to purchase this year. Research and action on this dryer will be reported on soon.
- Hydraulic Spreader/cutter and Rams. BVFD took delivery of the new AMKUS tool and had training on them over the last month or so. Mounting brackets just arrived, and these tools will be on ET 134. The rams are targeted for FY28.
- Our Radio Tower Restoration was submitted for FY28 and FY 29.
- We are submitting a CIP for SCBA. We received a FEMA Grant where we purchased 18 SCOTT X3 packs in 2015. A new NFPA 1850 Standard recommends retirement after 15 years of service. We will work with the town to submit another FEMA grant for the replacement of all, but want a back-up with Bolton's CIP program if this should not be approved by FEMA. We will suggest that monies be set aside over several years due to the size of the purchase, and of course, not encumbered if the grant does come through.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT –

Activities:

- Staff meeting at Bolton town hall regarding a problem with a single-family dwelling.
- Assisted the Health Department with an inspection.
- Attended a CRFMA meeting in Newington.
- Attended a meeting at 890 Boston Turnpike for a future dry hydrant.
- Responded to a car fire with the BVFD and conducted an investigation.
- Met with Heritage Farm Committee to discuss future weekend encampment.
- Assisted a town resident with home smoke detectors.
- Picked up and delivered poster contest calendars.
- Deputy Fire Marshal Jim Quish has retired. The position is vacant.

Inspections since last meeting:

- Tent inspection with building official
- 3 Burn permits issued
- Hans Christian Anderson Day Care – annual inspection
- Clark Road – re-inspected
- Bolton High School – annual inspection
- Bolton Center School – annual inspection
- Munson's Chocolates – business inspection
- Square Peg Pizza – new business inspection
- Bolton Collision – new owner inspection
- Bolton Veterinary Clinic and store – 3-year inspection
- Georginas Restaurant – annual inspection

DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –– Matthew Perreira led the discussion regarding the Capital Improvement Plan for the BVFD requests for FY 28. Motion to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for the BVFD requests for FY28 as presented. (RL/CM) VU.

John Morianos spoke about recruitment and retention for the BVFD. We would like to see more young people joining the department. John asked if everyone could come up with ideas for this, such as contacting Bolton's Boy Scout leader and an administrator at Bolton High School possibly having programs to bridge students from high school directly to the BVFD. Any and all suggestions and ideas are welcome. Also researching fire department grants. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Janet Assard discussed Bolton's 2nd Annual Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Event, scheduled for Saturday, December 19, 2026 (National Wreaths Across America Day) at 12 noon at Bolton Center Cemetery, 38 Hebron Road, Bolton CT. Chief Dixon and the BVFD will be assisting again with the fire truck, flag and chairs. She and Jennifer Baum, co-coordinators are accepting donations to sponsor a wreath or wreaths. Donations can be made on line, or mail a check directly to them at their homes. They will also come and pick up a donation if needed. Cash donations are also accepted. Everyone is welcome to attend the important event. All are encouraged to attend to honor all of our veterans past and present.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm (RL/CM) VU

Respectfully submitted,

Janet K. Assard

Janet K. Assard
Board Clerk
PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR CORRECTIONS TO THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.