MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting
Tuesday, October 20th, 2026

ATTENDEES:
Commissioner Marc Komorsky
Commissioner Robert Taft
Chief Anthony Champion
Treasurer Mark Pozniak
Bookkeeper Jen Kaiser
Jeff Lenkowski - IT
Commissioner Vincent Tierney
Commissioner Jeff Kaiser
Deputy Chief Scott Merritt
Secretary Bria Le

At 8:57 PM, Chairman Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners Special Meeting to order for Tuesday October 20th, 2026. Chairman Komorsky stated he wanted to thank everyone for all of the information that was shared and for going through the prior public hearing meeting. He does believe it worked out very well. They did seem to get positive feedback from people in the crowd. There were even people who thanked them for the information that was shared tonight. He does believe that they put together a good budget and a good presentation. He thanked Treasurer Pozniak and Chief Champion and Deputy Chief Merritt their responses. He did state that they are going to try to supply more information to be open and honest with people as was suggested and asked for at the hearing.

Commissioner Taft stated to Treasurer Pozniak's credit the payments for every voucher are in each set of minutes. He does understand that the public does not feel it is detailed enough for them but you can't come to one night of a hearing and expect to have all of the information. The tentative budget was posted and if anyone had called the Treasurer and asked questions he is sure they would have been supplied with answers. Chairman Komorsky stated that is again people not knowing. Now they know. He did thank everyone for their input and he was told that people are understanding it now. That is a good thing. He does believe it is worth a lot. He also wanted to state, as a matter of information, that Randy Aldrich, the Chairman of the Planning Board spoke to him. Apparently John Wisseman, the Superintendent of Highways and Town Supervisor Marinaro have stated that Reiger Town Center was off of the agenda at the last meeting because they were told by Superintendent Wisseman and Supervisor Marinaro verbally and in a letter that the roads inside the Town Center will not be Town roads and will not be cleaned or plowed or serviced at all by the Town Highway Department. Chairman Komorsky stated he told Mr. Aldrich that that is great news for the Town, but how will the Fire District get in there if there is a storm and snow. He did not have much of an answer for that other than they will try to bring it back to the builder. They need to make sure that they bring this up. Commissioner Kaiser stated if there are 600 residents living there they will need to keep the streets clean. They're not going to get away with not cleaning them. Commissioner Taft stated that is going to be a major hit to the investment of that property. If they have to have an investor buy that property and now they have to have a homeowners association to do the maintenance that will be a big cost. If I were an investor in purchasing it and the Town was taking over the roads, it would be a no brainer but that might be the knife in the neck for the project. Chairman Komorsky stated that they have to stress their concerns at the meetings about being able to service that project if and when it comes in. Superintendent Wisseman knows how to prioritize certain areas in the Town. Captain Jason Ryan stated it was his understanding there are changes to the road frontage as well. Chairman Komorsky stated he is

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via Microsoft Teams.

familiar with private services who do this work. Some are fantastic and some are not as good. The Fire District cannot be affected by that so they will need to bring that up as a key point.

Chairman Komorsky stated that in regard to the budget, they had the opportunity tonight to hear from the people. He asked if the rest of the Board of Fire Commissioners were ready to make a decision.

Commissioner Tierney stated he did not hear anything totally detrimental other than what they knew going into it regarding the pain of the levy. He is good with it.

Chairman Komorsky stated he has to ask the question because it was brought out a number of times. Does anybody want to disband the EMS service and get rid of the ambulances and pursue hiring Empress? He does have to ask the question as it was brought to them by a number of the public present. Commissioner Taft stated he does not believe they have the ability to do that. They cannot enter into a contract. Chairman Komorsky stated he has to ask the question. Especially with the Union representative in the room. He stated that hearing and knowing that they don't want to just disband it suggested, he can state that that is not going to happen, at least within the 2027 budget cycle.

Commissioner Kaiser stated that he wants everyone to be aware that they did not take this budget lightly. It is not something that they just whipped up. There was a lot of thought put into this budget and a lot of time put in with Treasurer Pozniak. They discussed what the best options to do would be and if it was better to spread costs out over a couple of years. He stated that Commissioner Tierney had expressed a concern regarding the impact on the elderly and the fixed income people. They do understand this is not an easy option for them to do. They did look at several different ways to do this and they do feel that this was the best way moving forward.

Chairman Komorsky stated besides thanking Treasurer Pozniak and the Chiefs, he does want to thank the Board members as well. They contributed a lot of important information also. They all took this very seriously.

Commissioner Taft stated he believes this puts them in a better position for next year and that they won't have to raise it as much. He would rather have one year where it's a large increase and be done with it than have to do 15% this year and 15% next year. Chairman Komorsky stated other than one or two people, no one vehemently objected once they explained the reasoning. Commissioner Kaiser stated a few people were questioning and asking for more information.

Chairman Komorsky stated one thing that was said that really disturbed him is when Mrs. Altemann stated that they were running volunteers out of Town. He stated he has never heard that in all of his years here. He has never seen any proof that they don't want volunteers. They don't turn people away. He asked if anyone knows where that came from. Commissioner Kaiser stated that he did speak with another citizen and she approached him and he asked her to stay so that he could discuss that with her. She stated she would talk with the Chief. Commissioner Kaiser identified himself as one of the members of the membership committee and stated that he would like to know more. He said that she left, so she's made these comments but was not interested in staying and discussing it. Chairman Komorsky stated it was very disturbing because in his involvement he has never seen it happen. Chief Champion stated that he did approach her at the end of the evening and asked if she would share the name of the person she was speaking about. He stated that she would not share his name but she would have that person called the Chief. The Chief said he asked her a few times and told her that he did not recall ever turning someone away from being a volunteer. He spoke with Secretary Le and the Deputy Chief as well. He did not get the chance to speak with Commissioner Kaiser. He stated they

only turn someone away if they fail part of the background check or the physical. If someone applies who lives outside of LaGrange they encourage that person to join the district in which they live. They don't turn them away from our Fire District. Commissioner Tierney stated he does know where that comment came from so he will discuss it with them during executive session. Chairman Komorsky stated he would like to know more about it because he found it very disturbing. Commissioner Kaiser stated that, for the record, it is very easy for a crowd to sit here and say get more volunteers. They have no clue what it takes to be a volunteer. He did try to explain to a few people afterwards that volunteers are not free. He explained the insurance, the physicals, and the retirement program. He explained that they get paid to take classes now. Some departments are giving gift cards when they go to calls and Ms. Altemann stated that is not volunteering anymore. Commissioner Kaiser stated not to fault the public, but he does not believe that they understand exactly what it entails to bring in volunteers. People's time is shorter and the requirements are the same as they were 30 years ago but people's lives now are busier and they don't have time to do it.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Tierney and SECONDED by Commissioner Taft, the Board RESOLVED to exceed the real property tax cap (full resolution attached). Kaiser – Aye, Taft – Aye, Tierney – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Tierney and SECONDED by Commissioner Taft, the Board RESOLVED to adopt the 2027 budget as presented (full resolution attached). Kaiser – Aye, Taft – Aye, Tierney – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At 9:14 PM, Chairman Komorsky opened the meeting to public comments. There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:15 PM, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Taft and SECONDED by Commissioner Tierney, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discussion a contractual issue from Commissioner Tierney and one contractual issue from Commissioner Taft. Kaiser – aye, Taft – Aye, Tierney – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OPEN SESSION:

At 9:36 PM, the Board resumed Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:36 PM, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Taft and SECONDED by Commissioner Kaiser, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.
Kaiser – Aye, Taft – Aye, Tierney – Aye, Komorsky – Aye**. Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted by
Julie Beyer on behalf of
Bria Le – District Secretary
Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 11/10/26

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via Microsoft Teams.

RESOLUTION TO OVERRIDE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP FOR 2027 ONLY

LaGrange Fire District
in the Town of LaGrange
Dutchess County, New York

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District (The Board) must adopt a proposed budget for 2027 which includes an estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and

WHEREAS, the board did adopt its proposed budget in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District held its annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 20th, 2026, wherein the Board considered the proposed budget and comments received for and against the proposed budget at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the fire district for 2027 needs to exceed the real property tax cap established pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c for that budget year due to financial considerations discussed by the board at its meeting in preparation of the budget, and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for 2027 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which allows a tax levy increase of no more than 3.36%; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, the fire district may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only if the board of fire commissioners first enacts 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 approves this resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2027 budget only, in order to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which permits only a 3.36% increase in said tax levy which will result in a final annual fire district budget in the amount of $15,839,715.

Motion to approve the Resolution – Commissioner Tierney
Second - Commissioner Taft

Roll Call:	Commissioner Jeffrey Kaiser -	Aye
	Commissioner Robert Taft - _	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent Tierney -	Aye
	Chairman Marc Komorsky –	Aye

Dated: October 20th, 2026
LaGrange, NY

RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL BUDGET FOR 2027

LaGrange Fire District

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District (The Board) must adopt a proposed budget for 2027 which includes an estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District held its annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 20th, 2026, wherein the Board considered the proposed budget and comments received for and against the proposed budget at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for 2027 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which allows a tax levy increase of no more than 3.36%; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, the fire district may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only if the board of fire commissioners first enacts 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.

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the fire district for 2027 needs to exceed the real property tax cap established pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c for that budget year due to financial considerations discussed by the board at its meeting in preparation of the budget, and

WHEREAS, preceding this resolution, the Board passed a resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2027 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the Final Budget for the LaGrange Fire District for 2027 attached hereto and made a part hereof in the amount of $15,839,715 with a total tax levy of $14,453,715.

Motion to approve the Resolution – Commissioner Tierney
Second – Commissioner Taft

Roll Call:	Commissioner Jeffrey Kaiser -	Aye
	Commissioner Robert Taft -	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent Tierney -	Aye
	Chairman Marc Komorsky -	Aye

Dated: October 20th, 2026
LaGrange, NY

LaGrange Fire District
2027 Budget

	Adopted 2026	Proposed 2027		Adopted 2027	
Estimated Revenues					
1001 · Real Property Taxes	11,118,242	14,453,715	30.00%	14,453,715	30.00%
1081 · Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	100,000	0	-100.00%	0	-100.00%
2401 · Interest and Earnings	149,578	155,000	3.62%	155,000	3.62%
2705 · Gifts and Donations	1,000	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
2771 · EMS Cost Recovery	1,000,000	1,050,000	5.00%	1,050,000	5.00%
3210 · Insurance Dividends	95,000	90,000	-5.26%	90,000	-5.26%
3500 · Reimbursement Income	20,000	15,000	-25.00%	15,000	-25.00%
3524 · Ref of Exp - Personnel Services	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
4389 · Federal Grant (SAFER)	287,000	0	-100.00%	0	-100.00%
Total Estimated Revenues	**12,770,820**	**15,764,715**	23.44%	**15,764,715**	23.44%
Appropriations					
1 · Personal Services					
7322 · Payroll	5,823,560	6,114,750	5.00%	6,114,750	5.00%
Total 7322 · Payroll	5,823,560	6,114,750	5.00%	6,114,750	5.00%
Total 1 · Personal Services	**5,823,560**	**6,114,750**	5.00%	**6,114,750**	5.00%
2 · Equipment & Capital Expenditures					
7000 · Equipment					
7010 · Equipment - Fire & Rescue	185,000	900,000	386.49%	900,000	386.49%
7019 · Equipment - IT & Admin	46,000	60,480	31.48%	60,480	31.48%
Total 7000 · Equipment	231,000	960,480	315.79%	960,480	315.79%
7020 · Capital Expenditures					
7021 · Land	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
7022 · Buildings	0	270,000	#DIV/0!	270,000	#DIV/0!
7023 · Apparatus	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
Total 7020 · Capital Expenditures	0	270,000	#DIV/0!	270,000	#DIV/0!
7030 · Transfers to Reserves					
7031 · Transfer to Land and Building Reserve	515,000	900,000	74.76%	900,000	74.76%
7032 · Transfer to Apparatus Reserve	710,000	800,000	12.68%	800,000	12.68%
7033 · Transfer to Equipment Reserve	160,000	0	-100.00%	0	-100.00%
Total 7020 · Transfers to Reserves	1,385,000	1,700,000	22.74%	1,700,000	22.74%
Total 2 · Equipment & Capital Expenditures	**1,616,000**	**2,930,480**	81.34%	**2,930,480**	81.34%
4 · Contractual & Other Expenses					
5000 · Blanket Accident Ins	92,000	100,000	8.70%	100,000	8.70%
5500 · Contingency	25,000	50,000	100.00%	50,000	100.00%
6000 · Buildings & Ground					
6020 · Fuel	40,000	50,000	25.00%	50,000	25.00%
6030 · Electricity	63,000	90,000	42.86%	90,000	42.86%
6040 · R & S Buildings and Grounds	260,000	275,000	5.77%	275,000	5.77%
Total 6000 · Buildings & Ground	363,000	415,000	14.33%	415,000	14.33%

6010 · Travel and Training	80,000	95,000	18.75%	95,000	18.75%
6100 · R & S Apparatus	200,000	205,000	2.50%	205,000	2.50%
6200 · R & S Equipment	70,000	75,000	7.14%	75,000	7.14%
6220 · Gas, Diesel, Oil	53,000	95,000	79.25%	95,000	79.25%
6250 · Telephone	41,500	47,500	14.46%	47,500	14.46%
6330 · Office Supplies, Postage	25,000	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%
6350 · Association Dues	6,000	6,500	8.33%	6,500	8.33%
6360 · Uniforms, Badges	42,000	55,000	30.95%	55,000	30.95%
6380 · Awards	1,000	1,250	25.00%	1,250	25.00%
6400 · Public Events	13,750	15,000	9.09%	15,000	9.09%
6420 · Publications of Notice	1,100	1,750	59.09%	1,750	59.09%
6430 · Maint Fire Alarm Systems	550	550	0.00%	550	0.00%
6500 · Professional Services	12,000	215,000	1691.67%	215,000	1691.67%
6510 · Payroll Fees	21,000	35,000	66.67%	35,000	66.67%
6511 · Legal	275,000	325,000	18.18%	325,000	18.18%
6512 · Audit & Accounting	35,000	50,000	42.86%	50,000	42.86%
6520 · IT Services	100,000	105,000	5.00%	105,000	5.00%
6540 · Physical exams	35,000	40,000	14.29%	40,000	14.29%
6560 · Miscellaneous	12,000	20,000	66.67%	20,000	66.67%
6600 · Expendable Supplies	95,000	120,000	26.32%	120,000	26.32%
6700 · Service Charge	750	1,000	33.33%	1,000	33.33%
6999 · Uncategorized Expenses	10,000	15,000	50.00%	15,000	50.00%
Total 4 · Contractual & Other Expenses	**1,609,650**	**2,113,550**	31.30%	**2,113,550**	31.30%
8 · Benefits					
6270 · Life Ins.Career	20,500	30,000	46.34%	30,000	46.34%
6280 · Life insur.Volunteers	24,000	25,000	4.17%	25,000	4.17%
7120 · Dental Ins Career	65,000	68,400	5.23%	68,400	5.23%
7130 · Vision Ins.-Career	6,000	7,000	16.67%	7,000	16.67%
7140 · Hospitalization	1,740,520	2,050,000	17.78%	2,050,000	17.78%
7210 · MTA	19,834	20,820	4.97%	20,820	4.97%
7500 · State Retirement System	1,513,253	1,613,915	6.65%	1,613,915	6.65%
7600 · Service Awards	93,000	95,000	2.15%	95,000	2.15%
7700 · Social Security	445,503	467,800	5.01%	467,800	5.01%
7800 · Workers Comp/VFBL	294,000	303,000	3.06%	303,000	3.06%
Total 8 · Benefits	**4,221,610**	**4,680,935**	10.88%	**4,680,935**	10.88%
9 · Debt Service					
BAN Principal	0	0		0	
BAN Interest	0	0		0	
Total 9 · Debt Service	**0**	**0**	#DIV/0!	**0**	#DIV/0!
7900 · Transfer to SAFER Surplus	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
Total Appropriations	**13,270,820**	**15,839,715**	19.36%	**15,839,715**	19.36%
Appropriations Less Estimated Revenues	500,000	75,000		75,000	
Approp. Fund Balance/ Use of SAFER Reserve	**500,000**	**75,000**		**75,000**	