GATES FIRE DISTRICT

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Serving Territory in the Towns of Gates and Chili, N.Y.

Gates Fire District
Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Commission Meeting
THURSDAY, July 23, 2026
6:30 PM

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Attendance
James Werth, Chairman
Daniel Cox, Vice Chairman
Louis Comenale, Jr., Commissioner
Charles Johnson, Commissioner
Mark A. Quill, District Assistant Chief
Brittany Gould, Treasurer
Julie Spencer, Deputy District Treasurer
Donna Capone, District Secretary

Guests
**See attached sign-in sheet

Absent
Kevin Mahoney Esq., Legal Counsel-excused
Timothy D. Goole, District Fire Chief-excused

Chairman Werth called the Regular Commission meeting of the Gates Fire District to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Comenale.

Chairman Werth identified all the emergency exits within the building.

Would any of the guests like to address the Board at this time?
(please state your name and address)

The guest declined to address the Board.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:
Motion to approve the July 9th, 2026, Commission Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Treasurer's Report – presented by Brittany Gould:
Accounts Payable Report: Bills to be paid since the last meeting in the total amount of $277,381.17 were presented by the Treasurer and were audited by the Board of Fire Commissioners. All Commissioners in attendance signed the attachment to the Treasurer's Office list of vouchers approved to be paid.

Motion and Resolution to approve the Accounts Payable Report for July 23rd, 2026, bills and ordering the Treasurer to pay such audited and approved vouchers in the amount of $277,381.17 made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

June LOSAP Summary report presented.

Motion to approve the June LOSAP summary report made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

District Secretary's Report – Donna Capone:
I will not be attending the August 27th commission meeting. Julie will be taking care of the recording of the meeting. I will have everything prepped for her.

The Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York, Fire District Affairs June/July Bulletin was received via the United States Postal Service.

Chief Goole distributed Informational Bulletin 26-024 to All Personnel regarding American Flags to Half-Staff.

Assistant Chief Quill distributed Informational Bulletin 26-025 to All Personnel regarding Columbia Southern University Learning Partnership.

Chief Goole distributed Informational Bulletin 26-026 to All Personnel regarding Email Domain Name Change.

Chief Goole distributed Informational Bulletin 26-027 to All Personnel regarding him being Out of Town.

Chief Goole distributed Informational Bulletin 26-028 to All Personnel regarding him being Out of Town.

Chief's Report – Timothy D. Goole presented by Assistant Chief Quill:
Out of Town: I'll be back in the office on Monday, July 27th.

Education Reimbursement Program: Looking for permission to allow two (2) employees to enter into the education reimbursement program. All appropriate paperwork has been submitted.

Motion to approve to allow two (2) employees to enter into the education reimbursement program made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

VFF Orientation: Our two newest Volunteer Firefighters have attended their third orientation session, and we are hoping for their participation.

Assistant Chief's Report - Mark A. Quill:
Apparatus Updates:
4510 is out of service for preventative maintenance. It is scheduled to be back in service on July 24, 2026.
The new Engine 4512 will be undergoing UL Pump Testing on July 29, 2026. Final inspection and delivery are tentatively scheduled for early August.

Vehicle Use: Request permission for personnel to use a district vehicle to attend the UL Pump test for the new 4512.

Motion to approve use of a district vehicle to attend the UL Pump test for the new 4512 made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Surplus Request:
Request permission to surplus nine (9) chairs from the headquarters meeting room. These chairs have no monetary value to the district.

Motion to approve to surplus nine (9) chairs from headquarters meeting room made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Purchase Requests:
Request permission to purchase Community Risk Reduction materials for the price of $362.50 from ImageNow. There are funds to cover this expense.

Motion to approve to purchase Community Risk Reduction materials at the cost of $362.50 from ImageNow made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Services:
Request permission to authorize First Due Services to conduct annual hose testing on all fire district fire hose for up to $9,500.00. There are funds to cover the expense.

Motion to approve the annual hose testing on all fire district fire hose at a cost of $9,500.00 by First Due Services made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Comenale. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Equipment:
Request to purchase Rescue Jack Super X rescue strut system as part of the rescue strut upgrade replacement and upgrade project for the price of $27,889.00 from Jerome Fire Equipment Company Incorporated. As a part of this purchase the district receives $1,000.00 in trade in credit by trading in four (4) of our old struts; request to purchase one (1) set of Rave Struts for the price of $3,154.00 from Power Hawk Technologies Incorporated as part of the rescue strut replacement and upgrade project; request to purchase three (3) M9 Medical Bags for the price of $1,088.85 from Rescue Essentials; as part of our resolution and use of the DASNY grant funds I would like to request to purchase twenty-eight (28) sets of Turnout Gear for the price of $131,279.60 from MES; request to purchase two (2) pairs of Globe 14” Supreme Turnout Boots for the price of $1,210.00 from Firematic Supply Company Inc. to replace boots that are due for replacement; request to purchase two (2) speakers for the Company 2 workout room for the price of up to $400.00 from Amazon.com. The district will be reimbursed for this purchase by the 2% trust; request to purchase four (4) new tires for the 4C-95 vehicle for the price of $772.04 from Lewis General Tires. There are funds to cover these expenses.

Motion to approve the purchase of Rescue Jack Super X rescue struts from Jerome Fire Equipment Company Inc. at a cost of $27,889.00; the purchase of one set of Rave struts from Power Hawk Technologies Inc. at a cost of $3,154.00; the purchase of three M9 Medical bags from Rescue Essentials at a cost of $1,088.85; to purchase twenty-eight sets of Turnout Gear from MES at a cost of $131,279.60; to purchase two pairs of Globe 14” Turnout boots from Firematic Supply Company Inc. at a cost of $1,210.00; to purchase two speakers from Amazon at a cost of $400.00; to purchase four new tires for the 4C-95 vehicle from Lewis General Tires at a cost of $772.04 made by Commissioner Comenale and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Chairman Werth's Report:
No Report

Vice Chairman Cox's Report:
Request for Executive Session for personnel matters.

Commissioner Comenale's Report:
Question regarding Volunteer firefighter recruitment, since the Board of Directors has decided they are no longer actively recruiting volunteers, why are signs still being put up? Commission discussed. The district should follow the Board of Director's decision of no longer actively recruiting volunteers or posting signs.

Commissioner Johnson's Report:
No Report

Kevin Mahoney, Esq.
Excused

Executive Session:
Motion made at 6:45 p.m. by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Comenale to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussion regarding *the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and or potential litigation.* Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

A motion to exit Executive Session made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Cox. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

The Board exited Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 7:05 pm. The Board took no action in Executive Session.

Open Session:
No motions were made.

Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn the July 23rd, 2026, Regular Commission Meeting at 7:06 p.m. made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Comenale. Commission polled: Commissioner Cox-approved, Commissioner Comenale-approved, Commissioner Johnson-approved, Commissioner Werth-approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Capone
District Secretary