

**UNION FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF WARDENS
MEETING MINUTES
131 ASA POND ROAD, WAKEFIELD, RI 02879
February 2nd, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Wardens: Present: Mark Nelson (Chairman), Anthony Manzo, Joseph Mason, and Kathleen Mack, Richard Collinson

Others Present: Chief Steven Pinch, Legal Counsel Tim Bliss, District Administrator Brian Mahoney

CALL TO ORDER: Warden Nelson calls the meeting to order and confirms the presence of the Board of Wardens for the Union Fire District of South Kingstown (UFD) at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE WARDENS MEETING:

Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2026 Warden's meeting. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chief's Report

- Chief Pinch spoke about 3 recent fires in town noting the firefighters exceptional job performance. He also spoke about the extreme weather conditions recently effecting the fire scenes.
- Chief Pinch has applied for the annual scholarship from the Town of South Kingstown which would be the 5th year in a row. The next step would be to appear in front of Town Council if it were awarded.
- He reports that the high school students have finished midterms and are preparing for their fire practical and then they will be coming to the training grounds to do ladder work and level 1 burn.

Building Committee Report

- District Administrator Mahoney started by thanking Dan Nolan, Matt Coyle, and the plow team for their work plowing and keeping the fire stations operational.
- DA Mahoney notes he has spoken with Martone Construction and the project architect on fixtures and hardware for the Forestry Station project. He also speaks about working with the architect on station 9 and 2 for planning and design.
- He updated the board that the LED lighting upgrade project should be starting the following week.

Truck Report

- Chief Cinquegrana reports that all trucks are in service.

Grant Report

- Chairmen Nelson had received the grant report and said it seemed fine and Chief Pinch and DA Mahoney agree.

OLD BUSINESS:

Updates on old business

- District Admin Mahoney started old business with agenda item payment to Tower Construction. He reports speaking with AI from Tower Construction and that they are not able to find anyone to quote the siding change project at Matunuck. DA Mahoney notes he would reach out to local vendors about getting pricing for this work. Warden Manzo makes a motion to table payment to Tower Construction. Warden Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- In error DA Mahoney asked for a motion from the board to approve the committee reports. Warden Nelson makes a motion to approve the reports. Warden Mack seconded the motion. Warden Nelson went through approving each committee report. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Purchases of equipment and services

- Chief Pinch presents purchasing 3 additional vests for special hazards, this would allow all chiefs to have one in case of emergency. Warden Manzo makes a motion to approve the purchase of 3 vests from MES for \$4,617. Warden Mason seconded the motion. Warden Mack asks if this is a budgeted item and Chief Pinch answers that it is not budgeted but there is budget money available from another line. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- Chief Pinch presents purchasing brush fire gear with FEMA money from the Exeter brush fire a few years ago. He notes the UFD took in over \$13,000 from FEMA for that fire. Warden Collinson makes a motion to approve the purchase for \$8,000.00 from Firematic. Warden Mack seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.
- DA Mahoney presented a new Verizon desktop phone system to replace the current admin building phones. He reports that it would cost \$200 a month with a \$360 upfront credit. Warden Mack makes a motion to approve the Verizon phone system at a rate of \$200 a month. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. Discussion was then had about the overall total number of phones. DA Mahoney clarifies that there was a miscommunication and that more phones than presented would be needed. Warden Mack modified her motion to proceed with Verizon not to exceed \$400 per month total. Warden Collinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Budget meetings and admin update

- DA Mahoney speaks about the budget cycle being on a great pace and that meetings and discussions are continuing to happen.
- He speaks about the upcoming meeting of the SK Town Council to potentially approve the health care agreement between the UFD and TSK.
- He also reports that the current admin cleaning company is closing their business so he and Dan Nolan are working on securing a new company.
- DA Mahoney thanks new employee Tom Bradley for jumping right in and helping the UFD admin team.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS/FIREFIGHTERS

- Warden Manzo thanks the firefighters for the good work on the recent fires. Warden Nelson also thanks them for a recent fire call to a friend of his property.
- Fire Marshal Bernier thanks the crews for doing an awesome job and for putting in the extra time which helped the investigation portion of recent fires.

AJOURNMENT

- After all business was completed Warden Nelson asked for a motion to adjourn. Warden Mack makes a motion to adjourn. Warden Manzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

 Brian C. Mahoney
 District Clerk

Date Amended _____

Date Accepted _____

I, Brian C. Mahoney, do certify that the attached minutes are a true and accurate copy of the February 02, 2026 meeting of the Board of Wardens of the Union Fire District and that they have not been amended except as cited above.

 Brian C. Mahoney
 District Clerk