Brian E. Sturdivant, Fire Chief

City of Lansing | Fire Department
Board of Fire Commissioners

120 E. Shiawassee St. | Lansing MI 48933
517-483-4200
LANSINGMI.GOV/FIRE

Andy Schor, Mayor

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 12th | 5:30 PM |
Station Eight |815 Marshal St | Lansing MI

Fire Commissioners	
1st Ward	Barbara Lawrence, Vice Chair
2nd Ward	Jerrod LaRue
3rd Ward	Vacant
4th Ward	Gina Nelson
At Large	Steve Purchase, Chair
At Large	Jon Scott
At Large	Charles Willis
At Large	Krishna Singh

1. Call to Order – Establish Quorum
   1.1. Present: Barbara Lawrence, Jerrod LaRue, Gina Nelson, Steve Purchase, Jon Scott, Charles Willis
   1.2. Absent: Krishna Singh
2. Additions to Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
   3.1. January 8th, 2025, approved as written
4. Public Comment – Agenda Items (time limit: 3 minutes)
5. Review Communications
6. Comments from Chair
   6.1. Attended Councilmember Hussain's February meeting. There were about 40 people there with great engagement from the public. Some discussion on LFD matters included: impact of Station 2 closure, burn permits, and why so many rigs show up at a call. Presentation focused on the annual report, strategic plan, policy review, investments in equipment/apparatus, the new public safety campus, and growing personnel to support the needs of the community. This was similar to the meeting the Board held with the Mayor, which also went well.
      6.1.1. Chief Sturdivant cautioned against too much redundant messaging for increased personnel, in response to Chair Purchase's stance that repeated messaging can ensure things remain topical. Chair Purchase suggests moving the conversation to the public, rather than just City Hall.
      6.1.2. The Board and Chief Sturdivant have discussion on the culture of the budget in Lansing, the volume of calls, and mutual aid agreements that may impact the call volume. They speak on the difficulties of "overcome and adapt" which can lead to excuses to continue to underfund the department.
   6.2. Chair comments on the Awards Ceremony on January 10th.

7. Presentations

~~7.1. Commissioner Singh on Aquatic Threats~~ **TABLED for next meeting**

8. Fire Administration Report – Chief Sturdivant

8.1. LFD and HR was able to accelerate the hiring process from 6 months to 4 months. LFD hired 22 bodies in the recruit academy, with additional paramedic and EMTs. 15 of the 22 are funded through the FEMA SAFER Grant. There are additional 5 paramedics firefighters being interviewed next week. There have been a few resignations but it is best for them to resign early in the program. One cadet was hired.

8.2. There was a cheating incident in the paramedic program – that individual was expelled from the program and let go from the department.

8.3. Station 2 will be ready for move in November or December. New Station 9 should be open in early spring 2026.

8.4. There will be a new location for the 4th of July fireworks for increased public safety.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

10.1. Approved Proposed Budget

10.1.1. Budget request (see packet) includes request for 6 additional FTE and a community risk assessment. There is some discussion on the equipment requests, and health initiatives.

10.1.2. Chair Purchase reads draft for budget, draft is approved.

~~10.2. COL Email for Fire Board~~ **TABLED for next meeting**

10.3. Lexipol Policies 601-603

10.3.1. Approved with some discussion.

11. Requests for Commissioners to be Excused

11.1. Commissioner Singh is excused

12. Commissioner Comments

12.1. Jon Scott introduces themselves as the newest board member. They were on a public service board previously and are originally from Detroit, although they have been in Lansing four years.

13. Public Comment (on any matter – speakers must state their name and address; time limit 3 minutes)

14. General Order

15. Adjournment – 7:01pm
