



AFG Grants – No update watching what the President is doing with this program.

FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant – I have received the final paperwork and am placing orders for the equipment we have chosen. Some items have come in already. I also have been notified that there will be a second round, and we are eligible for \$7,750.00. I am trying to determine what we want to buy.

One issue that has come up is that the members are pushing for PFAS free gear which will be required in the state of Massachusetts in January 2027. The concern is the members that receive the gear will be wearing it for the next 10 years. The cost is \$1,000-\$1,500 more per set. Also, this material is new, and no one really knows how well it will hold up. Safety of our membership should be a top priority.

Job Description Committee – I believe the committee has completed their work. There may be a representative at the meeting to discuss any questions you may have. As of 2/18/2025 I have not seen the proposed job descriptions. I asked to be left out until the committee completed their assignment.

Policy Book – The last batch of policies have been sent out to the members. I also emailed each of you a copy to review.

ESO Report Program – The final section of records has been merged, and we are now fully functional.

Still waiting on the nozzles, we purchased with the Lion's Donation.

John Pansecchi  
Chief Engineer

**Attachments:**

Monthly report

Members percentage and responses for 2024

Incident Details from December 21, 2024 to January 19, 2025

**DISCUSSION:**

**Engine 1** – Chief Engineer Pansecchi addressed the Committee and asked that once Engine 1 is traded or sold, the funds be made available for mounting equipment for the new truck. Vice-Chairman Kleiner stated he does not have a problem with that.

**AFG Grant** – Originally received \$15,008.00 through the grant. Most of the items submitted for the grant have been ordered. Chairman Satko asked Chief Engineer Pansecchi what items were ordered. Chief Engineer Pansecchi answered; stokes basket, flashlights, adapters, 3 sets of gear, and a valve. He further explained that the Fire District is eligible for additional funds in the amount of \$7,750.00 which have recently become available. A request for the additional funds will be submitted.

Chief Engineer's Report

February 24, 2025

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**PFAS Free Gear** – Chairman Satko made note of the increased cost of the PFAS Free Gear. Chief Engineer Pansecchi explained that this is the gear that will be covered with the original grant funds. He agrees it is significantly more expensive, approximately \$4,200.00 per set as compared to \$3,300.00 for the previous type of gear.

**Log Sheets** – Chairman Satko noted duplications on Fire Department log sheets. Chief Engineer Pansecchi noted that this is an error on his part, partly due to his learning his new software program. The duplications will be removed.

**Vice-Chairman Kleiner made a motion to accept the Chief Engineer's Report,  
Member Lahey seconded, Unanimous – Passed.**

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

January 22, 2025 to February 18, 2025

### After hour customer/alarm calls:

1. 2/24 – Friday @ 7:31 pm, APD call to John's cell: 6 Summit Street low water pressure, call customer, assumed line was freezing as these services are only 2" deep on ledge.
2. 2/25 – Saturday @ 7:42 am, Wayne Brown from highway department called Nick's cell, brother's pipes are really loud on 4 Victory Street. Nick respond, identified the noise to be an echo from a large water break within the area. Investigate within the area, no water present, identified noise on Siamese connections at the PNA. Contact our Chief Engineer for personnel in charge of building, and to advise of issue. The basement flooded from a cross-connection device freezing. Shut water off in street. We believe we lost around 144,000 unmetered gallons in the basement.
3. 2/18 – Monday @ 1:02 am, 1:04 am, and 2:12 am to on call phone (Josh): Emergency dig safe call and email, pole replacement on 19 Mill Street. Missed three calls, no response to scene.

### Daily work:

- Well 2A not functioning, failed motor control transformer. Saldo Electric ordered transformer and fuses for replacement and installation. We also had him install a permanent wall mount heater in the chemical building after our 3<sup>rd</sup> portable heater burned out.
- Completed Superintendent's Annual Report.
- Completed a second roof site visit for contractors after bid posting was relisted identifying site visit to be mandatory.
- **Discussion:** Our Sanitary Survey findings from 8/12/24 were sent electronically on 1/29/25. The survey was emailed to you on 1/30 in addition to a forwarded message with MassDEP on 2/19. I have a deadline to reply to the findings on February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Kyle and Sutye have completed the OSHA 30 class and started a 14-hour treatment class to prepare for the treatment test. I am hoping to utilize some of his operator time in North Adams to add to time required for licensure.
- We had our SCADA Winn 911 system go down again, and I was able to reboot it. I have reached out to contacts to see what other integrators are available to service our area and have a company in Albany, NY, General Control Systems Incorporated. I will be reaching out when time allows to see what the process of changing integrators encompasses.
- 2/3 – A piece of flashing from the north side of our building blew off, struck the Adams Community Bank just above the ATM roof, then fell atop a car. No damage was apparent. I took pictures of the person's car just in case. Upon speaking with the Savoy resident, he did not appear worried, and did not vacate the car to look it over. I have heard nothing further. The remaining copper flashing was nailed back into the header board with roofing nails to prevent further detachment.

## Superintendent's Report

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- 2/5 – State boiler and pressure vessel inspections. To my knowledge, we passed upon review of completeness for prior violation (installation of emergency boiler cut-off switches at both door entrances).
- MIIA has contracted CBIZ to manage the property appraisal program. This year they completed a site visit of our 2mg tank on 2/7. I sent all requested improvement data to them prior to the visit. They will be evaluating one structure per year of our eleven. We have nine more to go.
- I have noted within my reports that our corrosion control orthophosphate residuals have been continually dropping every month. These measurements demonstrate the distribution system's protective coating that prevents the leaching of lead and copper into our water, in addition to preventing the buildup of tuberculation within our piping. Our levels had historically been maintained at .104 PPM to .108 PPM. Starting in September, that level dropped to .0944 PPM, continually dropping monthly to a current .0769 PPM. Originally, I had thought the levels were dropping due to increased CL injections, but that is not appearing to be the issue. In this time, we had also started injections from a new IBC tote of chemical. I have contacted Carus Chemicals to review quality control of the batch number to rule out a change in the phosphate mixture. I requested lab bottles to verify PH levels of our water as I suspect that they may have changed over time and our equipment is not proficient in this measurement.
- I have received notice that the Annual Statistical Report was available to start on 2/3 with a month shorter deadline for submittal of 3/31.
- Sprinkler system work required at 71 Grove Street necessitating shutoffs. One gate in the rear of the building is not operating, so repairs could not be safely completed by Encore, the contracted company. The owner has been advised he will be required to replace. We noted the building has two separate sprinkler systems, and two connections to the District. We have adjusted the charges accordingly.
- 1/18 – Call from United Rooter on a rock in customers sewer line at 97 East Road. We had a water break in November at #95 and did work on #97 sewer line and attempted to remove all debris. Need to evaluate the issue further. I have contacted the Town to utilize camera system and trace line, however, I cannot get out in the field at this time to complete.
- Hydrant inspections are complete with the exception of Notch Road high pressure, which we will complete the last week of this month. We have a couple areas to reinspect for noise detections.

The following hydrants were frozen and thawed this year.

1. 1/15/25: 29 Harding Avenue
2. 1/30/25: 168 Howland Avenue
3. 1/31/25: 15 Spring Street
4. 2/11/25: 85 East Road

- The Draft Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP) for approved projects (partial attachment) was released in February with only eleven new projects and **no funding approval to date (please read page 8) for the projects we may be required to complete, noted below in my LSLR update.**

### **Classes/meetings:**

1. 1/27 – Superintendents meeting, discussion on staffing issues. Primary discussion was on SRF funding, with communities not receiving reimbursement from MassDEP for projects and the constantly changing requirements for documentation required to receive reimbursement. We also discussed the SRF program's multiyear commitment to PFAS remediation, and apparent point of no funding availability by 2027.

### **Project Updates:**

**LSLR program update:** MassDEP emailed a mandated survey on 2/3 and was submitted on 2/11. **The survey was to evaluate charges for replacing required services, and potholing for 2<sup>nd</sup> visual inspections.** In addition, they again requested bylaws and site addresses if we are not under ownership of said services.

**Floor assessment:** 1/22 – Signed contract with Stantec for the sum of \$9,900.00 to review Hill Engineering submittal, conduct a site visit, and issue a **Technical Memorandum of Findings.** This was discussed within our last Board meeting. 1/31 – Meeting with Stantec to review Fire Department floor. Discussion that Hill Engineering shoring proposal may work temporarily, however not during construction of column replacements due to being located 6" from the columns. Discussion took place on a company coming in to install cribbing that can support the building and be used to jack the building for column reconstruction. It was discussed that Stantec would not engineer the cribbing, however the company that specializes in this task would do so. I asked Stantec to provide the following while here and followed up with an email. Stantec requires more time to complete this project. Below in bold is how I propose to oversee and fund this project. **Please advise if the Committee or anybody within the District as a whole wants to step forward to create a committee to assist with this project.**

1. A cost estimate to complete the cribbing discussed within their Technical Memorandum (TM) for **FY2026 budgetary reasons.**
2. **PLEASE BE ADVISED, CRIBBING MAY NEED TO GO OUT FOR PROCUREMENT OVER \$50,000, FURTHER DELAYING OUR NEW TRUCK PLACEMENT, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED BY AN ENGINEER.**
3. Provide a proposal for **FY 2026 budget** to start engineering for columns, and if required, footing replacement.

4. Within the engineering for column replacement, submit a **cost estimate for construction** of engineered plans to be funded in our **FY 2027 budget**.
5. **IN THIS TIME FRAME, PROCUREMENT CANNOT BEGIN UNTIL BUDGET APPROVED AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING IN 2026, WITH CONSTRUCTION STARTING AFTER JULY 1, 2026.**

2/14 – We cored the basement floor in the area under the new FD floor, and it appears the basement floor is 1 ¾” thick, after finding this, we additionally cored areas around the columns. It appears the footings may be approximately 2’x 2’. An email was sent to Stantec on these findings.

2/11 – Request update from Stantec on TM. ETA to be Friday 2/14.

2/19 – Request update from Stantec on TM.

## DISCUSSION

***Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP)*** – Superintendent Barrett directed the Committee to a copy of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund handout, explaining that as previously discussed, there is no funding available for anything.

***Mass DEP Sanitary Survey*** – He then directed their attention to the Sanitary Survey to address deficiencies noted by MassDEP. He presented a letter (drafted to MassDEP) for the Committee's review, addressing the issues and his suggestions for correcting the deficiencies. Upon review, Chairman Satko will sign the letter which will be submitted to MassDEP by Friday, February 28, 2025.

***Corrosion Control Orthophosphate*** – Chairman Satko asked Superintendent Barrett whether he'd contacted the chemical company regarding the concern about the latest batch of orthophosphate. Superintendent Barrett responded that he has contacted the company, but they have yet to respond regarding the batch question.

***Rock in Sewer Line*** – Chairman Satko asked Superintendent Barrett about the issue with a rock in the sewer line on East Road. Superintendent Barrett responded that he has been in contact with the customer and with United Rooter, but he has not had time to investigate the issue himself. The rock may have been introduced to the sewer line during the repair to a water main break earlier in the year.

Superintendent's Report  
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February 24, 2025

**Attachments:**

1. Partial copy of 2025 Draft DWSRF IUP (full copy is 37 pages)

Respectfully submitted  
Adams Fire District Superintendent  
John C. Barrett

**Member Lahey made a motion to accept the Superintendent's Report,  
Vice-Chairman Kleiner seconded, Unanimous – Passed.**



**Bookkeeper/Office Manager's Report**  
**January 23, 2025 - February 19, 2025**

- 79 Delinquent letters were mailed on January 22, 2025, for Routes 9-12 & 109-112.
- As of February 19, 2025, delinquent accounts over 60 days totaled \$20,604.24, and accounts over 90 days totaled \$0.00, due to BCAC Program compared to January 22, 2025, delinquent accounts over 60 days totaled \$0.00, due to BCAC Program and accounts over 90 days totaled \$15,733.00.
- The cash flow spreadsheet continues to be updated to monitor the District's Free Cash and Retained Earnings throughout the year.
- Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Lassonde and I continue to work on the process for the District's Free Cash.
- Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Lassonde and I continue to work on the FY26 budget.
- Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Lassonde and continue to work on the District's Annual Report.
- On February 4, 2025, I received a check from the Town of Adams in the amount of \$295,331.60, for Fire Protection (\$227,177.27) and Street Lighting (\$67,858.15) for the months of October, November, and December, which included interest of \$296.18. Leaving a balance of \$328,291.07.
- Bid opening for the Roof Replacement took place on February 11, 2025 @ 10:00 am. There were 9 bids received and 7 attendees. WPI was the lowest bid. The project is planned to take place in April 2025. Award letter went out to WPI on February 14, 2025, along with the rejection letters to the other contractors.

**DISCUSSION:**

***Roof Recover Project*** – Chairman Satko noted that the lowest bidder for the Roof Recover Project was WPI, with a bid of \$132,392.00.

***District Tax Payment from Town*** – Chairman Satko stated he'd checked with Bookkeeper/Office Manager Fletcher regarding the report requested from the Town of Adams. The report was received with the latest quarterly payment for Fire Protection and Street Lighting.

- Reports attached:
  - Treasurer's Report
  - Appropriation – General Fund
  - Appropriation – Enterprise Fund
  - Gallons Billed – Monthly Report

Kathleen A. Fletcher  
Bookkeeper/Office Manager

**Vice-Chairman Kleiner made a motion to accept the Bookkeeper/Office Manager's Report, Member Lahey seconded, Unanimous – Passed.**