

**RECORD OF  
SPECIAL ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT MEETING  
February 19, 2026**

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Adams qualified to vote in elections and Fire District affairs, met at 3 Columbia Street, Adams, MA 01220, the time therein mentioned.

Moderator Ryan Biros of the Adams Fire District called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Moderator Biros stated that he would read all articles and if any voter wanted an article to be held for further discussion to please state so.

**Article 1.** To see if the Fire District will vote, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B, to change the position of Clerk and Treasurer from an elected position to an appointed position, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend the Fire District vote IN FAVOR, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B, to change the position of Clerk and Treasurer from an elected position to appointed position.

Peter Wagner requested to hold Article 1.

**Article 2.** To see if District voters will authorize the position of Chief Engineer to become a full-time paid position, after the position has been changed from elected to appointed and the appropriation to fund the position has been approved at an Annual Meeting, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend the Fire District vote IN FAVOR to authorize the position of Chief Engineer to become a full-time paid position upon the position being changed from an elected to an appointed position and funds have been appropriated at an Annual Meeting, on or after July 1, 2027.

Peter Wagner requested to hold Article 2.

**Article 3.** To see if the District will appropriate from surplus revenue a sum in the amount of \$15,560.00 for a Mixer for the East Orchard Terrace Water Tank, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend that the Fire District vote IN FAVOR to appropriate from Retained Earnings, a sum of \$15,560.00 for the purpose stated above.

**Article 4.** To see if the District will appropriate from surplus revenue a sum in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Engineering of the Installation of Structural Brackets to the Park Street Bridge, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend that the Fire District vote IN FAVOR to appropriate from Retained Earnings, a sum of \$10,000.00 for the purpose stated above.

**Article 5.** To see if the District will appropriate from surplus revenue a sum in the amount of \$85,000.00 for the Installation of Structural Brackets to the Park Street Bridge Project (installation, materials, & other associated expenses), or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend that the Fire District vote IN FAVOR to appropriate from Retained Earnings, a sum of \$85,000.00 for the purpose stated above.

Cathy Foster requested to hold Article 5.

**Article 6.** To see if the District will appropriate from surplus revenue a sum in the amount of \$2,500.00 for a Hydraulic Model for the Cook Street Bridge Project, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Recommendation** We recommend that the Fire District vote IN FAVOR to appropriate from Retained Earnings, a sum of \$2,500.00 for the purpose stated above.

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**Vote** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to pass Articles 3, 4 and 6, as stated.

**Article 1** was held so that it could be voted on separately.

**Vote on Article 1** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present passed by majority Article 1, as stated.

**Article 2** was held for discussion and a separate vote.

**Discussion**

David Boschetti asked about the current and new salary for the full-time Fire Chief.

Chairman Satko stated the current salary is \$30K and the new salary would be a range from \$75-\$111K based on experience.

Cathy Foster wanted to know if Chief Pansecchi would be able to run for the position.

Chairman Satko stated he was more than welcome to and the District would follow the bylaws for the hiring process.

Chief Pansecchi stated he will not run and is going to retire in May of 2026.

Cathy Foster stated if we don't make the position full-time, we are going to have a hard time finding a qualified Chief.

First Assistant Engineer Lennon advised the group to think long term. Right now, the pool of candidates is small, and we need to change the structure so we can have a larger pool of candidates.

Linda Cernik stated concern about the salary being \$75-\$111K for 40 hours and that it seems low.

Chief Pansecchi stated that other areas similar in size (Egremont and Monterey) hired full-time Chiefs at over \$100K for an annual salary.

David Boschetti asked how we were going to pay for the increase in salary.

Chairman Satko confirmed that the salary would be covered by the fire protection rate collected by the Town of Adams on behalf of the District.

Another Adams resident asked about the benefits cost.

Chairman Satko stated that benefits would be an estimated additional \$40-50K.

Barbara Allard asked Chairman Satko to confirm the full salary and benefit package at \$150-165K.

Chairman Satko confirm that this would be on the high end.

Cathy Foster again expressed concern about not having a qualified Chief if we don't make the position full-time.

Chairman Satko stated we would have to rely on our Assistant Engineers.

**Vote on Article 2** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present passed by majority Article 2, as stated.

**Article 5** was held for discussion.

**Discussion**

Cathy Foster asked if the bridge in question was the same one that has been in news lately and how it became the Fire District's responsibility.

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Superintendent Barrett stated that the main issue with the bridge is the brackets that hold the water main lines to supply most of Adams. Seven out of eleven are not properly installed. He further explained that he is in talks with MASS DOT and our State Representative to see if MASS DOT will fund the project. There is a delay in their response so we need to be proactive and secure the funds so we can move forward with the project.

Cathy Foster asked to amend the article.

**Amendment to Article 5** to state that the Water Department will continue to seek alternative funding and if successful the amount withdrawn from the reserves will be reduced accordingly.

**Vote on the Amendment** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to amend Article 5.

**Amended Article 5** To see if the District will appropriate from surplus revenue a sum in the amount of \$85,000.00 for the Installation of Structural Brackets to the Park Street Bridge Project (installation, materials, & other associated expenses) in addition the Water Department will continue to seek alternative funding and if successful the amount withdrawn from the reserves will be reduced accordingly.

**Vote on Article 5** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to pass Article 5, as amended.

**Article 7.** To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

**Vote** There being no further business to come before said meeting, and upon motion made and duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that the meeting be dissolved, the time being 6:30 p.m.

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**Summary of Voted Appropriation**

**Article 3 \$15,560 from Retained Earnings**

**Article 4 \$10,000 from Retained Earnings**

**Article 5 \$85,000 from Retained Earnings**

**Article 6 \$2,500 from Retained Earnings**

**Total from Retained Earnings: 113,060.00**

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A true record,

Attest: 

Allen J. Mendel, Clerk & Acting Treasurer

