# SOUTH ONONDAGA FIRE DEPARTMENT
# Business Meeting Minutes
# July 13, 2026

President Tim Nelson brought the meeting to order at 1900. There was a quorum present at the start of the meeting and throughout. There were no objections to the notice of this meeting. The **Pledge of allegiance** was followed by a **Silent prayer.**

**June 8, 2026 Business meeting minutes were previously distributed to membership**. ***Upon motion made by Jason Baleno, second by Michele Cotterill, discussion held and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To approve the last monthly business meeting minutes as written.***
**There was no Executive Committee meeting in June.**

**Reports of fires and alarms read by Jason Cox:**
Calls for the month **31.** For the year **124.**

**Delinquent members: Read by Linda Grindrod:**
**Meetings:** John Casolare, Charlie Doupe, Mark Fenner, Todd Gardner, Steve Hall.
**Drills:** John Casolare, Brayden Coutri, Charlie Doupe, Todd Gardner, Steve Hall, JJ Ingraham.
**Roll call**: taken **27** members present. **27** eligible to vote.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
**Chief Erik Nelson (Erik)**:
- No report. Not in attendance.

**1st Asst. Chief Pat Abbott (Pat):**
- Dave Pierce Jr and Ben Nett have graduated and eligible for full status. To be referred to Erik. Ben Nett has joined the military and left for training already.
- The compressor pump was losing oil- leaking- Needs new O ring and in line separator, Cooper Luchsinger (Cooper) will check into parts from Gartner.
- Hose and ladder testing is done.

**2nd Asst. Chief Jason Baleno:**
- We may be switching from Active Alert to IamResponding
- Check the OCCRA site for disposal information for flares.

**Capt. Jason Cox:** Upcoming Drills: 7/20, 911 tour, 7/27 Narcan, 8/3 Mask confidence interior should be there, 8/17 EMS/Sm. tool, 8/24 Mitson truck Co. drill.
- The trailer has been here and gone- Not utilized as well as it could have been.
- If you have ideas for drills let Jason know. He will be meeting with Taunton's training coordinator.
- Taunton has Cigar nights on Wednesdays.
- S. Section at Nedrow 6/25- New Air 1 approved thru Legislature.
- Onon. Co. Sheriffs to move from downtown to Jamesville.
- OCVFA- getting new truck and Fire trailer.

- Co Chiefs are working on drone project.
- There will be a Lithium battery display at the fair.

See Jason for further information.

**Lieutenant Todd Cotterill:** No report.

**Lieutenant David Toomey:** No report. Not in attendance.

**Safety Officer Dave Fisher**: No report. Not in attendance.

**Fire Police Captain Tom Jones:** No report. Not in attendance.

**EMS Administrator Susan Abbott:**

- 7/27 @7pm Narcan training- guests are welcome- sign up in truck bay so they have an idea of number attending.
- Received the stickers from Albany.
- EMT refresher/original in Nedrow this Sept.

**President Tim Nelson (Tim):**

- This Wednesday evening at Taunton is for Officers at 6pm.
- Emergency Management has 12 drones throughout the county.

**VP Dave Fisher:** No report. Not in attendance,

**Secretary Sue Fisher:** No report at the time of meeting.

- Thanks to the Grindrod's for covering tonight's meal.
- Next Business meeting is August 10th 2026 @1900. Dinner at 18:30.

**Assistant Secretary Linda Grindrod (Linda):** No report

**Treasurer Bob Grindrod (Bob):** Read report of account balances to membership and distributed report of bills. Membership was provided the opportunity to review and question. ***Upon motion made by Mary Lou Sobon, second by Jason Baleno, discussion held and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To approve the treasurer's report as read.***

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Budget:** Don Fisher presented the proposed budget for 2027 $361,510 with a new Town contract amount of $343,310 includes a 2% increase over 2026. Membership reviewed line items and had questions answered.

- ***Motion made by Pat Abbott, second by Jason Baleno, discussion held and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To add a $3500.00 line item for retention and recruitment to the 2027 proposed budget.***
- ***Upon motion made by Jason Baleno, second by Michele Cotterill discussion held and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To accept the proposed 2027 budget.***

**By-Laws:** Attorney has not responded. President Nelson is meeting with Ed Phalen to look at their by-laws.

**Grants/Loans:** Don Fisher reported

Applied for Assist to Firefighters grant, for 24 portable radios ($179,181) dept share would be $8,532.

**LOSAP:** Number of calls are down we are half way through the year.

**Membership/Recruitment:** Pat Abbott received an incomplete application from a former member. Returning it to applicant for completion.

**Social media:** Ed Feola reported working on the submission for the Our Town newsletter.

**Sports:** Michele Cotterill reported: There will be a ready for the next alarm walking challenge in August. She will post the information.
**Training Tower**: No meeting last month, this month was quick meeting in parking lot. Colton Fire is renting the training center on 7/28.

The following committees did not submit a report this month: Achievement, Audit & Finance, Banquet, Building Improvements, Building Maintenance, Community/Halloween, Grounds, Historic records, Memorial, Nominating, Recycling, and Truck Replacement.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS**:
**Communications:** Letter received from the Donath family along with a $500.00 donation.
**Report of Bills** was distributed by the Treasurer; membership was provided the opportunity to review and question. ***Motion made by Jason Baleno, second by Cooper Luchsinger, discussion held, and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: to accept and pay the bills as presented.***
Statement contains two Verizon line items. Line item $138.87 for vehicles? Tim will check into it.
Bob has two checks to deposit $125 for building rental and $500.00 donation.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- TV for meeting/community room- Sue Abbott has a benefactor willing to purchase a large screen TV with installation for the community room.

***Motion made by Jason Baleno, second by Shane Moore, discussion held, and vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To accept donation of large screen TV and install from Sue Abbott's benefactor, Keeping the current screen, projector, IT system intact.***

- Status of memorial bench for Joanne Hull? Tabled to next month. Dave Toomey was looking up benches/prices.

***Motion made by Sue Fisher, second by Jerry Holbrook, to have next year's Banquet at Navarino Orchards. Discussion held, Sue Abbott stated Erik had mentioned only having Banquets every 5 years. Motion Tabled until August,***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Rusty Fenner requested parking off on the side lawn for family gathering on 8/15/26.
- Shane Moore brought up fund raising calendar. Discuss further next month.
- Michele Cotterill brought up Old Forge School Sept.17-20th. $75.00 pp. and they have rented lodging for $800.00. She is requesting department reimbursement. They have 6 members interested so far.

***Motion made by Jason Baleno, second by Ed Feola, discussion held, where President Nelson stated he is in favor, as long as the members bring training back to the department, vote taken, the following resolution was approved: To cover $75.00 pp fee and reimburse $800.00 for the house rental. None opposed.***

- Sue Abbott mentioned Believe 31 event at Cicero Station One on the 29th, $$ to go toward the trailer. She will post info on the board.

- Don Fisher suggested recognizing members with 50 or more years of service with a plaque wall. Ordering new plaques for any members who no longer have theirs. President Nelson suggested one large plaque. Don will look into it.
- Ken Case submitted a request for Life Member status. Need to check with Erik and verify.
- Received a new contract for gas at the school.

***Motion for adjournment made by Ken Case, second by Jason Cox, the following resolution was approved: to adjourn the meeting @ 20:35.***

*With Regards*

*Susan Fisher, SOFD Secretary*