

West Barnstable Fire District

Established July 12, 1949 by Chapter 107 Acts of 1949



2025 Annual Reports

FY 2027

Annual Fire District Meeting Warrant

**Annual Fire District Meeting
Wednesday, April 29, 2026 – 7:00 PM
West Barnstable Community Building**



Like us on
Facebook

**District Meeting Election Voting 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Fire District Meeting at 7:00 PM**

THANK YOU



EDWARD C. SMITH

**for your 36 years of dedicated service to the
West Barnstable Fire District.**



FIRE DISTRICT

NOTICE TO FIRE DISTRICT VOTERS

FISCAL YEAR 2027

**Annual Fire District Meeting
And Election of Fire District Officials**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

Fire District Voting 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Fire District Meeting Starts at 7:00 PM

**West Barnstable Community Building
2377 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149)**

West Barnstable, MA 02668

FY 2027 Meeting Warrant Begins on Page 1

2025 ANNUAL REPORTS

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Elected Officials

Moderator

Michael Pierce	Term Expires 2026
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Prudential Committee

Edward C. Smith, Chair	Term Expires 2026
Christopher Maki	Term Expires 2027
Daniel Dewey	Term Expires 2028

Water Commission

Mark Nelson, Chair	Term Expires 2027
Brian Paradise	Term Expires 2026
Wayne Miller	Term Expires 2028

Appointed Officials

David Paananen	Fire Chief
Brian Morrison	Deputy Fire Chief
Raymond Pirrone	District Treasurer
Mary Carnevale	District Accountant
Daniel Furbush	District Clerk

FISCAL YEAR 2027 ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT

of the

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

March 1, 2026

To: Daniel Furbush, Clerk of the West Barnstable Fire District

Greetings:

You are hereby directed to notify the voters of the West Barnstable Fire District to meet at the West Barnstable Community Building, 2377 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149), West Barnstable, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, between the hours of 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM to bring their votes for the following officers:

One Prudential Committee member for three (3) years

One Water Commissioner for three (3) years

And immediately thereafter to meet and act upon the following Articles:

Article 1. To act upon the 2025 Reports of the Officers, including the minutes of the previous Annual District meeting, as printed in the 2025 Annual Report, and distributed to the voters of the West Barnstable Fire District. (Prudential Committee recommends favorable action).

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the 2027 Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and acts in amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew any note or notes as may be

given for a period of one year or less in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section (Prudential Committee recommends favorable action.)

Article 3. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Six Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$6,200.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for Streetlight Service, said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief, or take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$6,200.00)).

Article 4. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Dollars (\$74,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for debt service, said funds to be expended under the direction of the treasurer, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Free Cash the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Dollars (\$74,000.00)).

Article 5. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Sixty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$68,647.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for District Salaries for the following officers: Moderator, District Treasurer, District Accountant, District Clerk, Prudential Committee, and Records Access Officer, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$68,647.00)).

Article 6. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Ninety-Nine Thousand Ninety Dollars (\$99,090.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for the ordinary operating expenses of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from General Stabilization the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Ninety Dollars (\$74,090.00) for a total appropriation of Ninety-Nine Thousand Ninety Dollars (\$99,090.00)).

Article 7. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Three Million Fifty-Four Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$3,054,135.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for the operation of the West Barnstable Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief, or to take any action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of One Hundred Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$109,550.00) and to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Nine Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars (\$2,944,585.00) for a total appropriation of Three Million Fifty-Four Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$3,054,135.00)).

Article 8. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Six Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$671,344.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 to fund miscellaneous district obligations, said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$662,599.00) and transfer and appropriate Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$8,745.00) from Certified Free Cash, for a total appropriation of Six Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$671,344.00)).

Article 9. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 to the Reserve Fund, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for a total sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)).

Article 10. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) to the General Stabilization Fund and to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to the Ambulance Stabilization Fund in Fiscal Year 2027 for a total sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Two

Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for the General Stabilization Fund and transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for the Ambulance Stabilization Fund for a total sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00)).

Article 11. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$17,200.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 to fund an audit of the West Barnstable Fire District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$17,200.00)).

Article 12. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for Whelden Memorial Library services, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)).

Article 13. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 to the Other Post Employment Retirement (OPEB) Trust Fund, said funds to be expended under the direction of the treasurer, or take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00)).

Article 14. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate from available funds and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand (\$975,000.00), for the schematic design, design development, construction documents, and associated costs for the fire station renovation including administrative, regulatory, and mandated costs. (The Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate from available funds and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of (\$975,000.00)).

Article 15. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2027 for the purpose of replacing a 2004 pickup truck and authorizing the disposal of a 2004 pickup truck in a manner that is in the best interest of the district. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)).

Article 16. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00) for the Fiscal Year 2027 for the purpose of replacing a cardiac monitor. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief or to take any other action relative thereto. (Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00)).

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting a copy thereof at the United States Post Office in West Barnstable, Whelden Memorial Library, and the West Barnstable Fire Headquarters, all located in West Barnstable, Massachusetts within said District, at least seven (7) days before the date of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 1st day of March, 2026.

Prudential Committee

West Barnstable Fire District

Edward C. Smith, Chair

Christopher Maki

Daniel Dewey

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

Daniel R. Furbush, District Clerk

West Barnstable Fire District

REPORT OF THE WEST BARNSTABLE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE 2025

The West Barnstable Fire District Prudential Committee has been diligently addressing various issues to ensure that our Department remains a source of pride for the community. Under the exceptional leadership of Chief David Paananen and our new Deputy Chief, Brian Morrison, a remarkable team has been assembled, working tirelessly to establish one of the premier Departments on the Cape. This is evident each month as other Cape Departments recognize the superior training of our staff. However, it remains a challenge for our Chief to retain personnel in West Barnstable.

Water management will be a significant concern in the coming years. We extend our gratitude to the Water Commissioners for their diligent efforts and for keeping the Prudential Committee informed of their findings. Further details on this matter will be provided in the coming years, as safeguarding our water resources in West Barnstable is paramount.

We are pleased to welcome a new member to the Prudential Committee, Daniel Dewey, who has seamlessly integrated and is representing the community's interests.

A key focus of our report is the building renovation initiative. We aim to elevate the importance of this issue, which will be extensively discussed during our annual meeting. This initiative is crucial for the safety of our staff, who spend nights in this facility. The personnel eagerly anticipate these updates, as they can significantly enhance efficiency and potentially save lives. Our dedicated team deserves commendation for their commitment to serving the residents of West Barnstable.

We urge everyone to verify the dates on their fire alarms and ensure the batteries are functional. Should you encounter any issues, please contact your fire department for assistance. This reminder is emphasized annually due to its critical importance. If you have young children, educate them on emergency procedures and establish a safe meeting point.

Conduct a thorough assessment of your home to identify potential safety measures. Do not hesitate to call 911 in case of an emergency.

We continue to rely on our exceptionally talented and dedicated support team. Dan Furbush, District Clerk, is always prepared and ensures our meetings are conducted efficiently, with a thorough understanding of open meeting protocols. Our Treasurer, Raymond Pirrone, is outstanding, providing comprehensive financial updates each month. Our District Accountant, Mary Carnevale, excels in presenting weekly bill summaries to keep the Committee informed on expenditures.

The Prudential Committee convenes at the West Barnstable Fire Station every third Wednesday at 4 p.m. We encourage you to review this booklet, which contains valuable information.

The most critical takeaway from this meeting is to inspect your fire alarms and review your home fire plans.

Respectfully submitted,

West Barnstable Fire District Prudential Committee

Edward C. Smith, Chair

Christopher Maki

Dan Dewey

WEST BARNSTABLE WATER COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT

The West Barnstable Water Commissioners meet at the West Barnstable Community Building at 2377 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable. The meetings are posted on the Town of Barnstable's website under "Official Agendas," which can be found under "Quick Links" on the Town's homepage or on the Barnstable Town Clerk's webpage.

Over the last few years, the Water Commission has been evaluating a proposal by the Barnstable Department of Public Works to conduct test drilling on Town-owned Bridge Creek Conservation Area in West Barnstable for a new source of municipal water that would primarily serve town residents in Hyannis. In 2024 the Town decided to pause any further evaluation of this site given the concerns expressed about the water withdrawal from the well. The concerns include the potential impact to the amount of water that could be used by West Barnstable at our well location near the Town's proposed site, and concerns about impacts on wetlands and rare and endangered species in the Bridge Creek Conservation Area. To date we have not heard any further information since the Town paused this project

Protect Your And Your Neighbor's Wells

Since the majority of West Barnstable residents rely on private drinking water wells, it is imperative to protect the quality of our groundwater by not discarding (or flushing) oils, fuels, chemicals, paints, insecticides, or prescription medicine anywhere except at approved collection sites. We all share the same aquifer, and contamination may adversely affect your and/or your neighbor's well water. The Town holds Hazardous Waste Collection days at the Transfer Station in Marstons Mills and you can dispose of harmful products at these events. The dates for 2026 will be posted to the Town website at <https://townofbarnstable.us/departments/solidwaste/> . To safely dispose of unwanted medications, all 15 towns on Cape Cod have an anonymous and free drop-off kiosk in their police department lobbies. For more information, see the Barnstable County website on "Unwanted Medications" at www.capecodextension.org.

Test Your Drinking Water Annually

The Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment recommends annual testing of your drinking water well for (at minimum) coliform bacteria, pH, specific conductance, sodium, and nitrates. More comprehensive testing for copper, iron, manganese, total dissolved solids, lead, and a suite of volatile organic compounds should be done every three years. Call the Barnstable County Water Quality Laboratory at 508-375-6605 for more information. A basic annual testing costs approximately \$70.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Nelson, Chair

Brian Paradise

Wayne Miller

FY 2025 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT TREASURER

The Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 25) books are closed and all the requisite financial statements and reports for that period have been filed with and accepted by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR). Our firm of independent accountants, Roselli Clark and Associates, are completing the audit of FY 24 and their report will be available for review online at the District web site: <http://westbarnstablefiredistrict.com>

The West Barnstable Fire District FY 25 Budget stewardship was very good. District management underspent Budgeted appropriations by \$ 634,093 (18%). In addition, local receipts – primarily ambulance and interest, generated \$ 246,458 more revenue than was estimated in the FY25 Budget. Partially offsetting this added revenue was a shortfall in property tax collections of \$ 275,203. The resultant net revenue and underspending resulted in DOR Certified Free Cash of \$ 897,000 for FY 25. This Free Cash plus the unencumbered funds from the Stabilization Fund of \$512,954 and \$ 224,326 from the Special Revenue Funds are available for use in funding Appropriations at the District Meeting for Fiscal year 2027.

The tax rate is the product of budgeted appropriations divided by property values. For Calendar 2026 (C26) the tax rate was set at \$2.66 per thousand dollars of property value, an increase of 37.8% from C25. In 2026 the net appropriations increased by \$ 470,269 (53%), due to the approved increase in full time Fire Fighters. District property values increased 8%, somewhat offsetting the appropriation increase, resulting in a 37.8% increase in the 2025 tax rate. When the 2026 tax rate is applied to this higher residential value, the average West Barnstable homeowner is experiencing a 48.9% increase in their property tax bill.

The District wants to thank Mr. John T Curran, the Town of Barnstable Director of Assessing, for his assistance in setting the 2026 tax rates. We also want to thank Sean O'Brien, Town Treasurer and Collector, and the Assistant Collector, Gislaime Morse, for the collection of District taxes. Finally, we want to recognize and thank the new District Accountant, Mary Carnevale, for her work for the District. And as always, the support of Charles Marshall in the transition.

The following reports are an integral part of this narrative. The ones covering FY2025 are the year-end Balance Sheet, the Revenue for the Fiscal Year 2025 and the details of FY 25 Budget and corresponding expenditures. For Fiscal Year 2027 the proposed Budget is included with select historical data. These reports are prepared using the modified cash basis as mandated by DOR for District reporting. The audit report, however, is based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for Municipalities. The notable differences between these two methods are the recognition of revenue when billed versus when collected, the recognition of the District liability for pension (\$ 1,166,888) and other post-retirement medical benefits (\$500,012); and the inclusion of the District fixed assets (\$ 2,342,219) and related depreciation in the audit report but not the District report.

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service and I look forward to serving you in the next fiscal year. I am always available to provide additional information or answer questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Pirrone

District Treasurer

**West Barnstable Fire District
Combined Balance Sheet
as of June 30, 2025
(Unaudited)**

	Governmental Fund Types				Fiduciary Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Stabilization Funds	Trust and Agency			
				Trust	Agency		
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,599,704	\$224,326	\$792,920	\$45		\$2,616,995	
Trust Fund Investments				555,324		555,324	
Receivables:							
Personal property taxes	3,195					3,195	
Real estate taxes	65,572					65,572	
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(55,686)					(55,686)	
Tax liens	148,462					148,462	
Ambulance	390,158					390,158	
Due to/from other funds	(50,000)		50,000			0	
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds							
Total Assets	\$2,461,406	\$224,326	\$842,920	\$555,369		\$4,084,020	

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:							
Accrued payroll	\$46,102					\$46,102	
Withholdings	9,227					9,227	
Warrants Payable	44,430						
Deferred revenue:							
Real and personal property taxes							0
Tax liens	148,462					148,462	
Deferred taxes	13,082					13,082	
Departmental	390,158					390,158	
Bonds payable	360,000					360,000	
Total Liabilities	\$1,011,461	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$967,031	
Fund Equity:							
Reserved for encumbrances	14,873					14,873	
Reserved for expenditures	367,217		253,965		555,369	1,176,551	
Reserved for continuing appropriations	113,915		76,000			189,915	
Reserved for appropriation deficit	(656)					(656)	
Undesignated fund balance	954,483	224,326	512,954			1,691,763	
Total Fund Equity	\$1,449,832	\$224,326	\$842,920	\$555,369		\$3,072,446	
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$2,461,294	\$224,326	\$842,920	\$555,369		\$4,039,478	

West Barnstable Fire District
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>	<u>Stabilization Fund</u>	<u>Trust & Agency Funds</u>	<u>Total (Memorandum Only)</u>
<u>REVENUES:</u>					
Property Taxes:					
Personal Property	\$33,266	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,266
Real Estate	2,591,197	0	0	0	2,591,197
Tax Liens and P& I	26,809	0	0	0	26,809
Intergovernmental		22,368	0	0	22,368
Local Estimated Receipts:					
Payments in Lieu of Taxes		0	0	0	0
Licenses, Permits, Fines & Fees	1,750	0	0	0	1,750
Investment Income	27,972	7,812	25,759	0	61,543
Miscellaneous	31,209		26,409	0	57,618
User Charges	455,823	0	0	0	455,823
Contributions and Donations	1		0	0	1
TOTAL REVENUES	3,168,026	30,180	52,168	0	3,250,374
	<i>Tied to Rev/ledger (-) trfs below</i>				
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>					
General Government	271,171	22,368	0	0	293,539
Public Safety	1,908,573	0	0	0	1,908,573
Culture and Recreation	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
Debt Service	80,491	0	0	0	80,491
Employee Benefits and Insurance	268,634	0	0	0	268,634
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,543,870	22,368	0	0	2,566,238
REVENUES OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	624,157	7,812	52,168	0	684,137
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES):</u>					
Other Financing Sources/(Uses)	90,000		50,000	63,115	203,115
Operating Transfers IN (Out)	113,115				113,115
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES)	(23,115)	0	50,000	63,115	90,000
REVENUE AND OTHER SOURCES OVER/ (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	601,042	7,812	102,168	63,115	774,137
Fund Balances - July 1, 2024	848,791	216,514	816,750	(433,774)	1,448,281
Fund Balances - June 30, 2025	\$1,449,832	\$224,326	\$918,919	(\$370,659)	\$2,222,418

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF NET FUNDED AND FIXED DEBT
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS	BONDS OUTSTANDING
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LONG TERM DEBT

BALANCE JULY 1, 2024	\$ -
less: PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	\$ -
BALANCE JUNE 30, 2025	\$ -

SHORT TERM DEBT

BALANCE JULY 1, 2024	\$420,000
less: PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	60,000
plus: PRINCIPAL ADDITIONS	0
BALANCE JUNE 30, 2025	\$360,000

INTERES PAID ON DEBT IN FISCAL 2025

	\$20,491
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**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
FY 2024 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES DETAIL**

Article FY 2025	Group / Line Item	Beginning Encumbrance	BUDGET FY2025	Reserve Fund Transfers	Final FY2025	Expended FY2025	Transfers FY2025	Encumb FY2025	Cont Approp	Total FY2025	FY2025 Turnback
3	Street Lights				0						
	Street Lighting		3,585		3,585	2,398			0	2,398	1,187
	Street Light Repair & Maintenance	0	1,304		1,304	988			0	988	316
	Street Light Replacement	0	543		543			0	0	0	543
	Prior Year Encumbrance				0					0	0
	Total Street Lights	0	5,432	0	5,432	3,386		0	0	3,386	2,046
	Debt Services										
	Short Term Principal	0	60,000		60,000	60,000			0	60,000	0
	Short Term Interest	0	20,492		20,492	20,491			0	20,491	1
4	Total Debt Services	0	80,492	0	80,492	80,491		0	0	80,491	1
	District Salaries										
	Moderator	0	50		50				0	0	0
	Prudential Committee Salary	0	1,500		1,500	1,500			0	1,500	0
	District Accountant	0	26,575	1,000	27,575	28,707			0	28,707	(1,132)
	District Treasurer	0	27,259		27,259	25,784			0	25,784	1,475
	Records Access Officer	0	17,998		17,998	19,867			0	19,867	(1,869)
	District Clerk	0	10,000		10,000	8,180			0	8,180	1,820
5	Total District Salaries	0	83,382	1,000	84,382	84,038		0	0	84,038	344
	District Expenses										
	Prudential Committee Operation	0	13,500		13,500	9,523			0	9,523	3,977
	Assessing / Tax Collection	0	4,367		4,367	3,626			0	3,626	741
	Professional Services	0	1,200		1,200	19,755			0	19,755	(18,555)
	Payroll Services	0	3,429		3,429	3,432			0	3,432	(3)
	Bank Service Charges	0	3,500		3,500	3,026			0	3,026	474
	Legal	0	7,500		7,500	2,030			0	2,030	5,470
	Water Commission Operation	0	1,600		1,600	4,232			0	4,232	(1,600)
	Life Insurance	0	556		556	304			0	304	252
	FICA / Medicare	0	26,385	2,000	28,385	21,744			0	21,744	6,641
6	Total District Expenses	0	62,037	2,000	64,037	67,672		0	0	63,440	597
	Fire Department										
	Fire Department Payroll										
	Fire Chief	0	163,000		163,000	159,866			0	159,866	3,134
	Deputy Fire Chief	0	153,000		153,000	32,365			0	32,365	120,635
	Fire Dept Payroll, Career	0	732,431		732,431	694,690			0	694,690	37,741
	Fire Dept Payroll, Adm. Asst.	0	29,522		29,522	24,822			0	24,822	4,700
	Fire Dept Payroll, Call	0	108,964		108,964	85,727			0	85,727	23,237
	Fire Dept Payroll, PT Firefighters	0	135,290		135,290	86,029			0	86,029	49,261
	Fire Dept Payroll, Career OT	0	438,201		438,201	278,845			0	278,845	159,356
	Stipends - Housing	0	36,000		36,000	18,000			0	18,000	18,000
	Fire Dept Payroll, OT Recruit Training	0	0		0	0			0	0	0
	Fire (Article 14)	0	0		0	0			0	0	0
	Fire Dept Payroll, V&E Compensated Absence	0	15,000		15,000	0			0	0	15,000
	Fire Dept Payroll Subtotal	0	1,811,408	0	1,811,408	1,380,344		0	0	1,380,344	431,064
	Fire Department Non-Payroll										
	Legal Expense - Fire Ops	0	10,000		10,000			1,410		1,410	8,590
	Consulting services	0	1,086		1,086	100				100	986
	Recruiting Expenses	0	0		0	36,433				36,433	(36,433)

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
FY 2024 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES DETAIL**

Article FY 2025	Group / Line Item	Beginning Encumbrance	BUDGET FY2025	Reserve Fund		Final FY2025	Expended FY2025	Transfers FY2025	Encumb FY2025	Cont		Total FY2025	FY2025 Turnback
				Transfers						Approp			
	Medical Examinations		15,450			15,450	11,465		1,700	0	0	13,165	2,285
	Recruiting Medical Exams				0	0	6,950			0	0	6,950	(6,950)
	Data Management		32,000		32,000	32,000	45,636		97	0	0	45,733	(13,733)
	Office Expenses	0	6,518		6,518	6,518	6,469			0	0	6,469	49
	Fire Prevention	0	109		109	109	90			0	0	90	19
	Unclassified Expenses	0	3,090		3,090	3,090	13,959		340	0	0	14,299	(11,209)
	Electricity	0	18,540		18,540	18,540	15,080			0	0	15,080	3,460
	Cable	0	400		400	400	378			0	0	378	22
	Heating Fuel	0	9,274		9,274	9,274	7,001			0	0	7,001	2,273
	Propane	0	272		272	272	117		94	0	0	211	61
	Waste Water	0	3,259		3,259	3,259	3,303			0	0	3,303	(44)
	Station 3	0	1,030		1,030	1,030	79			0	0	79	951
	Building Maintenance	0	22,257		22,257	22,257	40,358		2,166	0	0	42,524	(20,267)
	Rubbish Removal	0	4,000		4,000	4,000	4,235			0	0	4,235	(235)
	Telephone	0	4,000		4,000	4,000	3,784		202	0	0	3,986	14
	Building Cleaning Supplies	0	1,086		1,086	1,086	1,710		23	0	0	1,733	(647)
	Other Facilities Expenses		0		0	0	662			0	0	662	(662)
	Fuels/Lubricants		18,000		18,000	18,000	12,701			0	0	12,701	5,299
	Apparatus Maintenance	0	0		0	0	144			0	0	144	(144)
	Apparatus Maintenance - A293 new	0	2,332		2,332	2,332	5,517		350	0	0	5,867	(3,535)
	Apparatus Maintenance - A294 new	0	2,915		2,915	2,915	12,000		225	0	0	12,225	(9,310)
	Apparatus Maintenance - E295	0	500		500	500	4,739		932	0	0	5,671	(5,171)
	Apparatus Maintenance - F295	0	0		0	0	216			0	0	216	(216)
	Apparatus Maintenance - ET296	0	2,915		2,915	2,915	3,156			0	0	3,156	(241)
	Apparatus Maintenance - L297	0	1,000		1,000	1,000	4,304			0	0	4,304	(3,304)
	Apparatus Maintenance - C280	0	1,166		1,166	1,166	1,391			0	0	1,391	(225)
	Apparatus Maintenance - C291	0	1,500		1,500	1,500	350			0	0	350	1,150
	Apparatus Maintenance - C292	0	500		500	500	4,886			0	0	4,886	(4,386)
	Apparatus Maintenance - F290	0	1,166		1,166	1,166	683			0	0	683	483
	Apparatus Maintenance - T286	0	5,000		5,000	5,000	8,475			0	0	8,475	(3,475)
	Apparatus Maintenance - SH287	0	1,166		1,166	1,166	176			0	0	176	990
	Apparatus Maintenance - P288	0	2,000		2,000	2,000	379		25	0	0	404	1,596
	Apparatus Maintenance - Light Trailer	0	300		300	300	0			0	0	0	300
	Apparatus Maintenance - Air Trailer	0	2,000		2,000	2,000	2,677			0	0	2,677	(677)
	Apparatus Maintenance - General	0	3,000		3,000	3,000	1,857			0	0	1,857	1,143
	Portable Equipment Maintenance	0	2,000		2,000	2,000	1,151			0	0	1,151	849
	SCBA Equipment Maintenance	0	4,500		4,500	4,500	2,485			0	0	2,485	2,015
	Batteries:	0	2,500		2,500	2,500	1,447		190	0	0	1,637	863
	Equipment Service Contracts	0	3,900		3,900	3,900	4,268			0	0	4,268	(368)
	EMS Equipment Maintenance	0	5,246		5,246	5,246	1,467			0	0	1,467	3,779
	Radio Maintenance	0	2,332		2,332	2,332	2,581			0	0	2,581	(249)
	Office Equipment Maintenance	0	1,749		1,749	1,749	1,566			0	0	1,566	183
	Hazardous Waste Disposal	0	583		583	583	0			0	0	0	583
	Office Equipment	0	815		815	815	3,687			0	0	3,687	(2,872)
	Computer Equipment	0	1,630		1,630	1,630	7,997			0	0	7,997	(6,367)

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
FY 2024 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES DETAIL**

Article FY 2025	Group / Line Item	Beginning Encumbrance	BUDGET		Reserve Fund Transfers	Final FY2025	Expended FY2025	Transfers FY2025	Encumb FY2025	Cont Approp	Total FY2025	FY2025 Turnback
			FY2025	FY2025								
	Firefighting Equipment		2,173	3,156		2,173	3,156	6,089	0	0	9,245	(7,072)
	Fire Hose		2,120	0		2,120	0		0	0	0	2,120
	EMS Equipment	0	5,000	1,483		5,000	1,483		0	0	1,483	3,517
	Communications Equipment	0	1,086	0		1,086	0		0	0	0	1,086
	Station Equipment	0	272	1,182		272	1,182		0	0	1,182	(910)
	Uniforms - Chief	0	541	670		541	670		0	0	670	(129)
	Uniforms - Deputy	0	541	80		541	80		0	0	80	461
	Uniforms - PA	0	0	245		0	245		0	0	245	(245)
	Uniforms - TJ	0	835	830		835	830		0	0	830	5
	Uniforms - ID	0	0	278		0	278		0	0	278	(278)
	Uniforms - AM	0	835	835		835	835		0	0	835	0
	Uniforms - KS	0	835	830		835	830		0	0	830	5
	Uniforms - PD	0	835	753		835	753		0	0	753	82
	Uniforms - JB	0	835	836		835	836		0	0	836	(1)
	Uniforms - SR	0	0	209		0	209		0	0	209	(209)
	Uniforms - Call	0	2,060	653		2,060	653		0	0	653	1,407
	Uniforms - Parttime	0	1,288	394		1,288	394		0	0	394	894
	Uniforms - Class A	0	1,000	3,376		1,000	3,376		0	0	3,376	(2,376)
	Uniforms - AC	0	0	76		0	76		0	0	76	(76)
	Uniforms - KY	0	0	288		0	288		0	0	288	(288)
	Protective Clothing	0	2,500	5,317		2,500	5,317		0	0	5,317	(2,817)
	Immunizations	0	1,545	688		1,545	688		0	0	688	857
	Infection Control	0	217	260		217	260		0	0	260	(43)
	EMS Supplies	0	16,000	16,547		16,000	16,547		0	0	16,547	(547)
	EMS Medications	0	10,500	8,316		10,500	8,316	307	0	0	8,316	2,184
	Ambulance License Fees	0	1,195	1,048		1,195	1,048		0	0	1,355	(160)
	Firefighter Training	0	4,345	2,033		4,345	2,033		0	0	2,033	2,312
	EMS Training	0	4,345	4,104		4,345	4,104		0	0	4,104	241
	Officer Development	0	6,518	0		6,518	0		0	0	0	6,518
	Travel & Tuition	0	1,000	4,000		1,000	4,000		0	0	4,000	(3,000)
	Dues & Subscriptions	0	3,000	3,523		3,000	3,523		0	0	3,523	(523)
	Physical Training	0	1,304	0		1,304	0		0	0	0	1,304
	Certifications/Testing	0	4,345	4,021		4,345	4,021		0	0	4,021	324
	Public Education/CPR	0	1,630	575		1,630	575		0	0	575	1,055
	Grant Matching Funds	0	0	(9,538)		0	(9,538)		0	0	(9,538)	9,538
	Contingency	0	2,173	(8,534)		2,173	(8,534)	9,764	0	0	1,230	943
	Hydrant Service	0	3,000	2,167		3,000	2,167	722	0	0	2,889	111
	Ambulance Collection	0	10,320	14,630		10,320	14,630	0	0	0	14,630	(4,310)
	Dispatch	0	26,000	25,037		26,000	25,037	0	0	0	25,037	963
	Cape & Islands EMS System	0	3,605	5,633		3,605	5,633	0	0	0	5,633	(2,028)
	Fire Alarm System	0	3,259	819		3,259	819		0	0	819	2,440
	Other	0	0	(400)		0	(400)	0	0	0	(400)	400
7	Fire Dept Non-Payroll Subtotal	0	330,143	384,529	0	330,143	384,529	24,636	0	0	409,165	(79,022)
	Total Fire Department	0	2,141,551	1,764,873	0	2,141,551	1,764,873	24,636	0	0	1,789,509	352,042

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
FY 2024 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES DETAIL**

Article FY 2025	Group / Line Item	Beginning Encumbrance	BUDGET FY2025	Reserve Fund Transfers	Final FY2025	Expended FY2025	Transfers FY2025	Encumb FY2025	Cont Approp	Total FY2025	FY2025 Turnback
Benefits											
	County Retirement	0	178,801		178,801	135,565				135,565	43,236
	Retiree Insurance	0	0		0	(1,958)				(1,958)	1,958
	Health Insurance	0	257,064		257,064	129,272				129,272	127,792
	Dental Insurance	0	9,667		9,667	4,700				4,700	4,967
	Vision Insurance	0	1,763		1,763	752				752	1,011
	Insurance	0	110,000		110,000	104,655				104,655	5,345
	Transfer from OPEB Trust	0	61,585		61,585	0	(61,585)				
8	Total Misc.	0	618,880	0	618,880	372,986	(61,585)	0	0	372,986	184,309
9	Reserve Fund	0	40,000	(3,000)	37,000	0	0	0	0	0	37,000
10	Transfer to Ambulance Stabilization	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0
11	Audit FY25	0	17,200	0	17,200	0	0	0	17,200	0	17,200
12	Library Funding	0	15,000	0	15,000	15,000	0	0	0	15,000	0
13	TR to OPEB Trust	0	125,000	0	125,000	0	125,000	0	0	0	0
16	Administrative & Response Vehicle	0	90,000	0	90,000	89,175	0	0	0	89,175	825
17	New Sleeping Quarters	0	76,000	0	76,000	(76,000)	0	0	0	0	0
20	Water Commissioners use	0	15,000	0	15,000	4,342	0	0	15,000	4,342	10,658
14	Station Design (in Spec Rev fund)	0	15,000	0	15,000	76,000	0	0	76,000	0	0
	Total FY 2025 Appropriation (per 4/24/24 ADM)	#REF!	3,419,974	(3,000)	425,200	108,517	175,000	0	108,200	108,517	65,683
Prior Year Continuing Appropriations											
2014-14	Rehab B-295		2,000	0	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	2,000
2016-16	Water Treatment System 16-14		1,399		1,399	0	0	0	0	0	1,399
2016-16	Radios & Repeater		27,116	0	27,116	6,425	0	0	20,691	6,425	0
2023--17	Audit FY22		1,360		1,360	0	0	0	0	0	1,360
2020-12	Pers Protective Eq 24-18		22,802		22,802	0	0	0	22,802	0	22,802
2019-12	Pers Protective Eq 19-12		18,663		18,663	18,663	0	0	0	18,663	0
2021-13	Tanker 286 Repairs		1,510		1,510	0	0	0	0	0	1,510
2022-14	Fire station Capital Improvements		6,759		6,759	1,415	0	0	5,344	1,415	0
2023-14	Fire station Capital Improvements		7,500		7,500	0	0	0	7,500	0	0
2024-15	Bunk Room Project		18,000		18,000	0	0	0	18,000	0	0
2024-16	Water Commissioners		5,178		5,178	0	0	0	5,178	0	0
	Missed continuing appropriation FY24 Audit			17,200	17,200	15,000	0	0	2,200	15,000	0
	Total Prior Year Articles (per F24 FB)	0	112,287	17,200	129,487	41,503	0	0	81,715	41,503	29,071
	Prior Year Encumbrances (Per F24 FB)		2,847		2,847				0	0	2,847
	FY 2025 GF Totals	0	3,535,108	17,200	3,549,461	2,523,466	109,183	24,636	189,915	2,543,870	634,093

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET**

Article	Group / Line Item	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 PROPOSED	% Change
3	Street Lights						
	Street Lighting	3,383	2,131	2,398	3,600	3,600	0.0%
	Street Light Repair & Maintenance	513	-	-	2,000	2,000	0.0%
	Street Light Replacement	1,230	1,036	988	559	600	7.3%
	Total Street Lights	5,125	3,167	3,386	6,159	6,200	0.7%
4	Debt Services						
	Interest Expense	718	4,488	20,492	18,309	14,000	-23.5%
	Long Term Debt	30,000	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	0.0%
	Total Debt Services	30,718	34,488	80,492	78,309	74,000	-5.5%
5	District Salaries						
	Moderator	50	50		250	250	0.0%
	Prudential Committee Salary	1,500	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0%
	District Accountant	23,539	30,559	28,707	26,598	27,396	3.0%
	District Treasurer	21,640	23,964	25,784	28,350	29,201	3.0%
	Records Access Officer	16,640	18,039	19,867	18,718	0	-100.0%
	District Clerk	6,000	8,000	8,180	10,000	10,300	3.0%
	Total District Salaries	69,369	81,612	84,037	85,416	68,647	-19.6%
6	District Expenses						
	Assessing / Tax Collection	4,000	3,626	3,626	4,367	4,500	3.0%
	Treasury Services	2,050	2,330		3,500	28,000	700.0%
	Bank Service Charge			3,026		100	
	Professional Services	1,100	1,571	19,755	1,200	3,500	191.7%
	FICA / Medicare	21,398	20,598	21,744	33,182	36,290	9.4%
	Life Insurance	200	357	304	556	600	7.9%
	Legal	7,000	4,727	2,030	7,500	7,500	0.0%
	Prudential Committee Operation	12,500	11,640	9,523	13,500	13,500	0.0%
	Payroll Services	3,100	3,125	3,432	3,429	3,500	2.1%
	Water Commission Operation	1,500	1,543	4,232	1,600	1,600	0.0%
		Total District Expenses	52,848	49,517	67,672	68,834	99,090

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET**

Article	Group / Line Item	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 PROPOSED	% Change
7	Fire Department						
	Fire Department Payroll						
	Fire Chief	144,461	149,616	159,866	171,150	179,706	5.0%
	Deputy Fire Chief	135,531	123,944	32,365	159,120	167,076	5.0%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Career	448,079	362,453	648,588	955,930	1,026,614	7.4%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Adm. Asst.	27,295	25,935	24,822	30,703	31,624	3.0%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Call/Volunteer Wages	114,767	139,137	85,727	170,000	179,400	5.5%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Part Time Firefighters	120,000	134,071	86,029	184,550	205,180	11.2%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Career Over Time	274,794	267,504	278,845	565,529	608,538	7.6%
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Training	20,000	-	18,000	36,000	36,000	0.0%
	Fire Dept - Housing Stipends						
	PT Fire (24 Article 14) \$15,240						
	Fire Dept. Compensated Absences	-	51,272	-	15,000	24,000	60.0%
	Fire Dept. Payroll Subtotal	1,284,927	1,253,932	1,334,242	2,287,982	2,458,138	7.4%
	Fire Department Operations						
	FD Operation - Admin	36,958	106,057	58,253	80,160	84,242	5.1%
	FD Operation - Facilities Maintenance	56,096	54,080	64,118	66,791	90,139	35.0%
	FD Operation - Equipment Maintenance	71,055	98,054	68,268	94,402	100,774	6.7%
	FD Operation - New Equipment	21,358	75,325	15,595	22,521	50,654	124.9%
	FD Operation - Uniforms	8,475	8,898	9,604	16,408	16,448	0.2%
	FD Operation - Ambulance	28,045	23,318	29,457	16,231	18,268	12.6%
	FD Operation - Personnel Training	35,875	40,615	19,208	62,532	79,883	27.7%
	FD Operation - Other Expenses	59,819	50,590	65,638	127,778	155,589	21.8%
	Fire Dept. Non-Payroll Subtotal	317,680	456,937	330,141	486,823	595,997	22.4%
	Total Fire Department	1,602,607	1,710,869	1,664,383	2,774,805	3,054,135	10.1%
8	Miscellaneous						
	County Retirement	164,059	173,487	135,565	179,801	299,000	66.3%
	Employee Health Insurance - Active Employees	101,495	77,742	132,765	149,607	192,818	28.9%
	Retiree Health Insurance	42,905	47,692	-	61,794	59,526	-3.7%
	General Insurance	92,353	93,523	104,655	120,000	120,000	0.0%
	Total Miscellaneous	400,812	392,444	372,985	511,202	671,344	31.3%

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET**

Article	Group / Line Item	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 PROPOSED	% Change
9	Reserve Fund	43,300	-	37,000	50,000	50,000	0.0%
10	Transfer to Other Funds						
	Stabilization Fund - General Stabilization	130,000	95,000			250,000	
	Stabilization Fund - Ambulance	30,000	40,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	0.0%
	Stabilization Fund - General	160,000	135,000	50,000	50,000	300,000	500.0%
11	Audit	17,200	17,200	15,000	17,200	17,200	0.0%
12	Library Funding	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	0.0%
13	Transfer to OPEB Trust	40,500	80,000	-	97,500	35,000	-64.1%
	Water Commission				15,000		-100.0%
	Operating Expenditures	2,437,478	2,519,297	2,389,955	3,769,425	4,390,616	16.5%
	Capital Outlays						
14	Fire Station Design					975,000	
15	Pick-up Replacement					100,000	
16	Cardiac Monitor					65,000	
	Prior Year Appropriation Spending FY20-22 Appropriated FY23						
	Deputy Chief Vehicle			90,000			
	New Sleeping Quarters Modified to Station Redesign			76,000			
	Deputy Hiring Consultant	15,000					
	Water Commission various services	4,822					
	Vehicle Laptops	2,214					
	Radios & Repeaters	33,149		6,425			
	Personal Protective Equipment	13,272		18,663			
	Tires	5,000					
	Replace engine 296		693,175				
	Capital Improvements at Fire Station	12,000		1,415			
	Total Capital Outlays	17,000	766,632	192,502	-	1,140,000	
	Total FY Expended/Budgeted Appropriations	2,454,478	3,285,929	2,582,457	3,769,425	5,530,616	46.7%

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
TAXATION COMPARISON
FY 2023 TO FY 2027**

	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget/Actual	FY 2027 Proposed
Total Appropriations	2,454,478	3,285,929	3,458,972	3,769,425	5,530,616
Overlay	5,968	9,400	2,208	2,139	10,000
Total Amount to Be Raised	2,460,446	3,295,329	3,461,180	3,771,564	5,540,616
Ambulance Fees	253,981	407,945	270,000	300,000	300,000
Debt & Other Local Receipts		300,000	45,093	17,000	10,000
Free Cash	262,500	271,334	285,492	272,500	874,495
Overlay Surplus		90,000		0	
OPEB Trust Fund	42,905	47,692	61,585	61,585	975,000
Debt					
Stabilization /Special Revenue		160,000	166,000	17,200	0
Local Revenue and Other Funding Sources	559,386	1,276,971	828,170	668,285	2,159,495
Tax Levy	1,901,060	2,018,358	2,633,010	3,103,279	3,381,121
increase	3.7%	6.2%	30.5%	53.8%	9.0%
Property Values	\$931,892,360	\$1,045,781,400	\$1,097,087,620	\$1,131,582,540	\$1,131,582,540
Average Residential Property Value	\$713,054	\$803,242	\$837,582	\$867,858	\$867,858
increase	25.5%	12.6%	4.3%	8.0%	3.6%
Tax Rate	\$2.04	\$1.93	\$2.40	\$2.66	\$2.99
increase	-17.4%	-5.4%	24.4%	37.8%	24.5%
Average Residential Tax Bill	\$1,455	\$1,550	\$2,010	\$2,309	\$2,593
increase	3.7%	6.6%	29.7%	48.9%	29.0%

NOTE: The Actual years reflect the actual tax levy and thus may not compute to that value

2025 CHIEF REPORT

On behalf of the dedicated members of the West Barnstable Fire District, I thank you for your continual support. The following report will highlight the activities performed during 2025.

As we closed out FY2025 after the annual district meeting, we welcomed our new Deputy Chief, Brian Morrison, to the West Barnstable Fire Department. Deputy Morrison came to us with a well-rounded background in both career and volunteer organizations. Deputy Morrison has been a great asset to this department and has taken on many projects with enthusiasm. His continual dedication helps with the transitioning process with the addition of full-time staff and continual turnover of volunteer staff. Deputy Morrison continues to oversee a number of facilities and vehicle needs and our funding for these needs does not go as far with increased cost and need for services.

The addition of career staffing has made an improvement in our staffing model as we continue to feel the effects of the rapid turnover of Call/Volunteer staff. This turnover volume is like nothing we have seen. I still predict that we have not seen an end to high volume turnover as other departments are continuing to hire staff to fill vacancies with staff retiring from the hiring boom of the late 80's and early 90's. Other departments are also continuing to add new staff because of increased demand for service.

Our ability to fill part-time positions is down because of the time it takes to train new Call/Volunteer staff in addition to scheduling conflicts. We will continue to explore restructuring and outside support to meet the demand of our turnover. We have four of our new Call/Volunteer staff attending the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy as a trial of their Call Volunteer program. These students will participate in a blended program with online meetings and training in addition to commuting to Bridgewater for hands on practical training. This will require a significant commitment of our newest staff to complete this program. It is unfortunate that our closest state academy and Firefighter I/II recruit training resource is Bridgewater.

With the addition of four new career staff, we have seen a significant increase in the County Retirement Assessment. Normally we would have seen this increased cost last year, but it was deferred until this year because of the timing of the start dates of the new career staff.

Dispatch Services are provided to the West Barnstable Fire District by the Barnstable County Sheriff's Department. Fire and Emergency Medical Service Dispatch services are two of the many services provided to us as part of our Dispatch Service Fee. Our fees are assessed annually. The cost of dispatch is typically offset with state grants and funding, reducing the overall cost to those that subscribe to dispatch services. This year some of those subsidies have not become available as I write this report. This has caused an increased assessment to all agencies that are dispatched by the Sheriff's department. This will result in a more than 50% increase for our dispatch assessment. The cost that we pay for dispatch is still less than what it would take for us to fund just one dispatch position on our own.

We continue to apply for grants. We spent much of this year waiting for notification on grant status. Much of the wait is directly related to government shutdown. As I prepared this report the unofficial word is that we did not receive funding for our AFG grant application. The application was submitted 12/20/2024. We have been told that if we did not receive funding as of now, it will not be funded. We have applied for a micro grant to offset the cost of needed EMS equipment, including an electrocardiogram (EKG). This year we have added a special article for purchasing the EKG. Our current EKG will no longer be serviceable and will need to be replaced to continue to provide an Advanced Life Support ambulance.

This year we have placed a special article for the replacement of our 2004 Ford F-350. This service vehicle is currently out of service and needs replacement. The body and body support have significant rust and corrosion making the use of this vehicle unsafe. The vehicle has some intermittent electrical issues further affecting the safe operation. Our plan is to

replace this vehicle with an SUV to be used by the Deputy Chief. The current Deputy Chief's vehicle is a 2014 Ford Explorer donated by the Cotuit Fire District, which will be repurposed to the function of Fire Prevention and Secondary service vehicle. Now that members are attending the Bridgewater Fire Academy for training, the need for a secondary service vehicle is necessary.

This year we are asking for support for the much-needed station addition and renovation. Our current station lacks the needed and appropriate space for bunk rooms. We currently have one formalized bunk room. This room currently contains 5 beds. Informal sleeping areas have been created within office space and common areas. The current arrangement does not lend itself to needed privacy. Some of the informal areas were needed to allow separate sleeping areas for male and female sleeping quarters. When the station was built in 1988, we did not have any staff that spent the overnight at the station. The bunk room primarily was used during events such as storm coverage during the overnight. Over the years we have increased our staffing levels and model to meet the increased request for service. At our current peak staffing levels, we have had up to 13 members staffing the station during the overnight. Of the 13, only two of them are paid to be here while the remaining members are volunteering time and compensated for calls that happen during their shift.

We are requesting the support of Article 14 to authorize the district to borrow up to \$875,000 and use \$100,000 of certified free cash for the first of two requests. The first request is to fund the schematic design, design development, construction documents, and associated cost of the addition and renovation. The second request will be at District Meeting next year 2027 for the funding needed to complete the addition/renovation. The roughly estimated cost of the project is \$7,000,000. After the design and engineering plans are complete, a more exact cost of the project will be known. The design and engineering plans are only valid for one year. Should we not move forward with the construction of the addition, we would be required to start the process over, starting with a feasibility study. We will be hosting an informational meeting on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:00PM at the fire station 2160 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable, MA 02668 prior to this year's District Meeting.



NEW CALL STAFF 2025

CAMPBELL ANDREW	LeFEVOUR ANTHONY *	DUTRA HELEN REBECCA
COTTER THOMAS *	MASTERS TAYLOR	HINDS TYRONE *
CURRIE ANDREW *	McENEANEY SEANNA	MONTIERO ALEXANDER
DAVIS JACOB	TELLEZ GABRIEL	ODELL MARK
DODSON HANNAH	TUCKER ANDREW *	SANTOS VICTOR
HOWES EVAN *	VERDEIRO ARTHUR	VINITSKY JOSHUA
KIRWAN KATIE	WELCH AIDAN	

NATHAN TADDIA – Nantucket Fire, welcome back

Indicates no longer active member

STAFF THAT HAVE LEFT WEST BARNSTABLE 2025

THOMAS COTTER	TOM DALY
ANDREW CURRIE	JEFFREY GRUENGLAS – Truro FD
EVAN HOWES	ZOE LINDAUER – Harwich FD
ANTHONY LeFEVOUR	MORGAN HOLZRICHTER – Yarmouth FD
ANDREW TUCKER– Harwich FD	COLE DE FRANCISCI - Yarmouth FD
TYRONE HINDS	AIDAN CLARK- Dennis FD
WILLIAM BOTELHO – COMM FD	JACK SCHOFIELD – Falmouth FD
WILLIAM BOEMER – DC FD	ROBERT LOMBA – Falmouth FD
ALLYSSA LIORENTTY – Yarmouth FD	AARON STEWART

We wish everyone the best of luck in their future endeavors

Our current hiring schedule started February 2026, and we will be adding new volunteers shortly after the publishing of this book.

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**CHIEF
DAVID PAANANEN**

**DEPUTY CHIEF
BRIAN MORRISON**

**DEPUTY CHIEF
CALL/VOL.**

GROUP 1		GROUP 2		GROUP 3		GROUP 4	
MEDIC	Lt. Paul Donovan *	MEDIC	Capt. Kimberly Riker *	MEDIC	Lt. Austin Moloney *	MEDIC	Capt. Troy Jewett *
EMT	Pablo Almeida *	EMT	Joseph Brady *	MEDIC	Shane Ryder *	EMT	Lt. Ian Diaz *
FR	Lt. John Garofoli *					EMT	Lt. Steve Frye *
EMT	Jill Albanese	EMT	Matt Eveland	EMT	Johnathan Ramos	FR	Greg McGaffigan
EMT	Josef Dauley	EMT	Jacob Davis	EMT	Fran Sayers	EMT	Hannah Dodson
EMT	Robert Lomba	EMT	Gabriel Tellez	EMT	Nathan Taddia	EMT	Helen Dutra
EMT	Andrew Campbell	FR	Arthur Verdeiro	EMT	Matthew West	EMT	Taylor Masters
FR	Victor Santos	EMT	Joshua Vinitsky	EMT	Katie Kirwan		
EMT	Alex Monteiro			EMT	Seanna McEneaney		
				EMT	Mark Odell		
				FR	Aidan Welch		

PART-TIME		DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION		NON-GROUP FIREFIGHTERS		CHIEF'S AIDE	
EMT	Mark Cabral *	ACCOUNTANT	Mary Carnevale	EMT	FPO Kevin Young *	EMT	Andy Heckler
EMT	Karl Hemr			EMT	Heather Malkani		
EMT	Hayley Kirker	ADMIN ASST	Heather Scozzarella			INTERNS	
EMT	Lt. Matt Cikins *	MAINTENANCE	Chief Joe Queenan				
EMT	Kaden Mcinnis						
RAO	Chris Dauley						

New Recruit Class of 2026 (TBD)

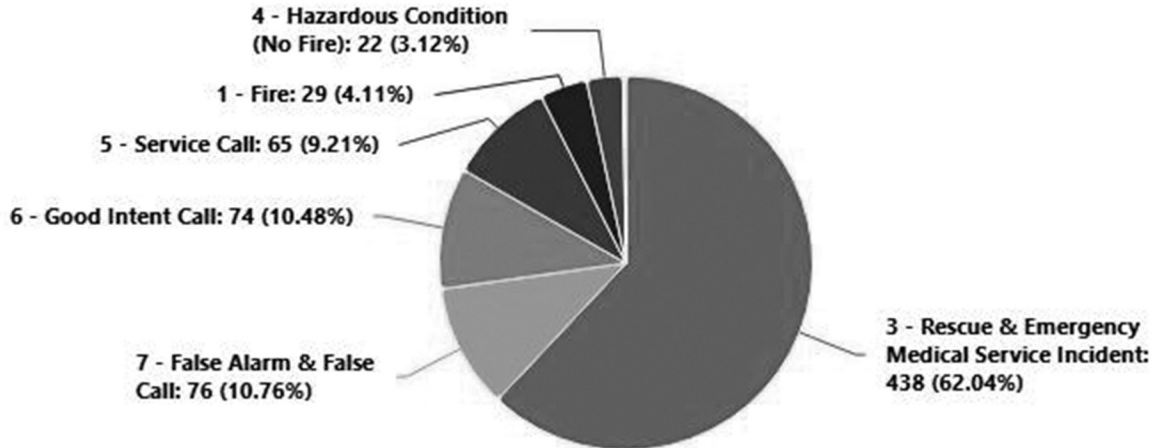
CHART LEGEND			
MEDIC	Paramedic	CAPT	Captain
EMT	Emergency Medical	LT	Lieutenant
FR	First Responder	ENG.	Engineer: Operator All Apparatus
FPO	Fire Prevention Officer		*All Officers are Engineers
PFT	Probational Fire Trainee		

Updated: 2025

West Barnstable Fire District						
Calls by Type						
Type of Call	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Animal Rescue	2	4	4	1	1	-
Assist Police / Other Government Agencies	9	13	7	13	14	104
Automatic Fire Alarm	73	64	76	56	61	57
Boat Fire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burning Without a Permit	6	8	5	5	8	11
Carbon Monoxide	1	6	7	5	1	2
Cellar/Water Pumping	1	2	2	7	2	-
Dumpster Fire	1	1	-	-	-	-
Elevator Rescue	1	1	2	2	1	1
EMS	346	313	384	356	348	253
Explosion/Rupture/Overhead	1	2	-	1	2	1
Hazmat	15	18	17	11	11	10
Lightning Strike	-	1	-	-	-	-
Missing Person	3	1	-	-	-	1
Motor Vehicle Crashes versus Pedestrian	2	1	1	1	-	-
Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury	35	34	39	32	24	27
Motor Vehicle Crashes without Injury	17	13	17	18	15	16
Motor Vehicle Fire	3	3	3	2	6	2
Mutual Aid - EMS	29	36	37	28	35	18
Mutual Aid - Fire	20	13	13	13	18	11
Mutual Aid - MVC	9	9	8	8	5	4
Mutual Aid - Other	26	30	15	13	10	10
Mutual Aid - Coverage	10	9	7	12	7	3
Oil Burner Malfunction	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other	-	4	1	-	1	2
Outside Equipment Fire	1	1	-	1	-	2
Prescribed Fire (Local and Regional)	2	3	2	4	-	4
Public Assist	28	32	24	39	14	21
Ring or Jewelry Removal	2	-	2	-	-	-
Smoke in the Building	2	2	3	-	-	2
Standby/Coverage	2	-	2	1	-	-
Structure Fire	-	3	5	-	-	3
Structure Fire - Chimney Fire	-	-	-	-	1	-
Structure Fire - Cooking Fire	-	-	-	2	1	5
Structure Fire - Electrical Fire	4	4	5	6	5	5
Trench Rescue	-	-	-	1	-	-
Unfounded/Mistakes/False	44	23	30	25	34	23
Utility Pole Fire/Wires Down	5	6	5	13	9	15
Water Rescue	2	-	2	-	2	-
Weather Emergencies	1	-	1	8	19	7
Wildland Fires	4	5	7	10	8	9
Total	707	665	733	694	664	629

Incident Type Categories

Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025



Incidents by Day and Hour

Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025

Day of Week	0000	0200	0400	0600	0800	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200												
Sunday	2	1	4	2	0	2	2	1	6	3	10	4	9	7	3	3	5	9	4	5	2	4	2	0
Monday	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	9	5	4	5	6	5	8	5	3	5	4	6	4	3	1	2
Tuesday	1	3	0	1	4	3	3	6	4	5	7	10	11	6	6	6	6	5	2	2	2	3	3	3
Wednesday	2	4	0	3	2	0	5	4	7	6	9	6	8	8	10	10	6	6	2	5	3	3	3	1
Thursday	4	2	1	0	0	2	1	11	4	11	7	6	7	7	6	4	6	7	4	3	4	2	2	0
Friday	1	3	3	2	0	5	2	3	4	3	6	9	5	7	9	4	8	10	5	2	6	8	1	2
Saturday	4	2	2	1	0	0	5	10	1	3	6	12	7	5	5	4	9	12	5	2	5	1	4	7

We have seen a small shift in times associated with high call volume from 2024, from 8AM to 9PM to 7AM to 5PM for 2025. While this is still during our daytime hours, we have started adding additional part-time staff to cover some of the low staff callback hours during the day.

West Barnstable Fire District					
Fire Loss Data					
2025 Fire Loss Data by Property Type					
Incident Type	Count	Total Value	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Saved
Structure Fire	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Vehicle Fire	2	\$ 59,600	\$ 59,100	\$ 500	0.84%
Outside Equipment Fire	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Total	2	\$ 59,600	\$ 59,100	\$ 500	0.84%
Fire Loss Data by Year					
Year	Count	Total Value	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Saved
2025	-	\$ 6,624,200	\$ 69,100	\$ 6,555,100	98.96%
2024	-	\$ 1,972,400	\$ 93,868	\$ 1,878,532	95.24%
2023	-	\$ 1,037,600	\$ 40,500	\$ 997,100	96.10%
2022	-	\$ 5,969,300	\$ 6,052	\$ 5,963,248	99.90%
2021	-	\$ 619,100	\$ 276,500	\$ 342,600	55.34%
2020	-	\$ 1,125,700	\$ 68,000	\$ 1,057,700	93.96%

Fire loss for 2025 represents the total value lost during a fire. This is a combined value of the property and contents. In an effort to minimize loss the best action would be prevention. Sometimes small simple things like service and maintenance can prevent a fire. Early notification will also reduce the amount of damage.

West Barnstable Fire District Mutual Aid Summary

Mutual Aid Given											
	2025						2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
	EMS	Fire	MVC	Other	Coverage	Total					
Sandwich	18	4	5	16	3	46	34	28	23	31	21
Barnstable	7	5	3	4	-	19	21	25	30	26	14
COMM	2	2	1	1	1	7	7	10	10	10	10
Hyannis	-	3	-	-	-	3	12	3	5	2	-
Dennis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	-
Cotuit	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-
Mashpee	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-
Falmouth	-	1	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	1	-
Orleans	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
Brewster	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	-
JBCC	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1
Yarmouth	-	-	-	1	2	3	1	3	1	-	-
Wellfleet	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Bourne	-	-	-	1	3	4	-	-	1	-	-
Truro	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	2	-	-	-
Harwich	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Provincetown	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Total Mutual Aid Given	29	20	9	26	10	94	91	80	74	75	46
Total WBFD Incidents						707	665	733	694	664	629
Percent Mutual Aid Given						13.3%	13.7%	10.9%	10.7%	11.3%	7.3%

Mutual Aid Received						
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total Mutual Aid Received	26	24	32	28	39	20
Total WBFD Incidents	707	665	733	694	664	629
Percent Mutual Aid Received	3.7%	3.6%	4.4%	4.0%	5.9%	3.2%

We continue to see high volume of mutual aid requests. There are a significant number of incidents that we are asked to cover or provide additional resources. Some of this is a direct result of automatic aid being provided based on call type through mutual aid agreements directly with neighboring communities. Most of these agreements are equally shared in willingness to reciprocate aid or offset some needs of each community.

West Barnstable Fire District								
Busiest Locations								
Busiest Locations								
Year	Route 6	CCCC	Burger King Complex	Kimber Woods	Lombard Farms	YMCA	Sandy Neck	Knight's Inn / Craigville Motel
	Tax Exempt	Tax Exempt	Partially Tax-Exempt	Tax Exempt		Tax Exempt	Tax Exempt	
2025	44	36	30	13	31	13	18	2
2024	41	34	28	11	21	4	13	5
2023	50	16	29	15	34	28	16	16
2022	50	25	28	8	20	8	17	7
2021	42	40	26	12	8	5	23	9
2020	42	112	27	10	12	5	13	5
2019	30	38	29	16	8	9	14	5
2018	46	43	26	18	5	12	19	5
2017	39	47	25	20	6	9	18	3
2016	42	31	25	21	4	17	11	3
2015	55	32	30	18	15	11	8	4
2014	35	43	15	27	9	8	14	23
2013	40	49	17	19	5	8	9	37
Trailing Five Year Averages								
2021-2025	45	30	28	12	23	12	17	8

Our busiest locations represent 187 calls for service and about 26% of our total call volume. We have seen a significant increase in calls for service to Lombard Farms (55 and over housing) and the YMCA. Both of these locations have a mix of medical calls and alarm activations. We continue to see a decrease in calls to the Knights Inn previously known as the Craigville Motel as this property is no longer being run as a motel.

As a reminder property owners should continue to evaluate and reduce wildland urban interface fuel loads. One of the lessons learned from major wildfires is that resources are overwhelmed and can't meet the demands of the fire. Most fire departments within our region are designed to manage one structure fire at a time and still require outside assistance. During a wildland urban interface fire, the potential for multiple structure fires is possible. This will certainly overwhelm the local resources and result in large loss. Any measures that can be taken to reduce risk should be taken. Serious consideration should be given to an aggressive reduction of fuels in areas of wildland and urban interface as a way to create a buffer zone around properties and re-establish fire breaks to help with containment. Some properties will remain vulnerable because of conditions out of our control like weather conditions. Creating buffer zones will decrease the risk. More information on what you can do to reduce your risk can be found at The United States Forest Service – U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Fire Protection Association NFPA.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/features/make-your-home-wildfire-defensible>

<https://www.nfpa.org/en/education-and-research/wildfire/preparing-homes-for-wildfire>

Following information provided by NFPA

<https://www.nfpa.org/en/education-and-research/wildfire/preparing-homes-for-wildfire>



Immediate zone

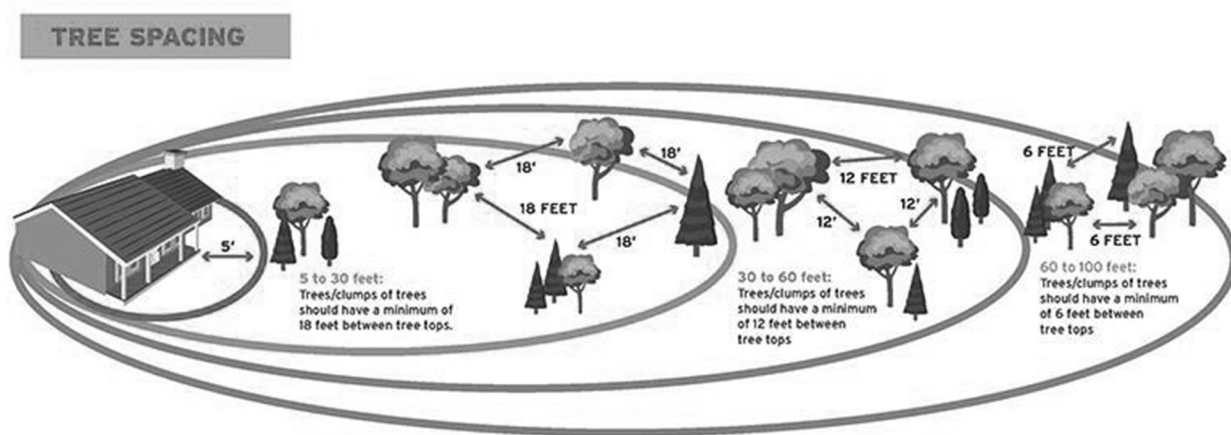
The home and the area 0-5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home; defined as a non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. **START WITH THE HOUSE ITSELF**, then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8-inch metal mesh screening.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8-inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

Intermediate zone

5-30' from the furthest exterior point of the home. Landscaping/hardscaping- employing careful landscaping or creating breaks that can help influence and decrease fire behavior

- Clear vegetation from under large stationary propane tanks.
- Create fuel breaks with driveways, walkways/paths, patios, and decks.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches.
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns. Prune trees up to six to ten feet from the ground; for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height.
- Space trees to have a minimum of eighteen feet between crowns with the distance increasing with the percentage of slope.
- Tree placement should be planned to ensure the mature canopy is no closer than ten feet to the edge of the structure.
- Tree and shrubs in this zone should be limited to small clusters of a few each to break up the continuity of the vegetation across the landscape.



Extended zone

30-100 feet, out to 200 feet. Landscaping – the goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.

- Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter/debris.
- Remove dead plant and tree material.
- Remove small conifers growing between mature trees.
- Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other outbuildings within this area.
- Trees 30 to 60 feet from the home should have at least 12 feet between canopy tops.*
- Trees 60 to 100 feet from the home should have at least 6 feet between the canopy tops.*

**The distances listed for crown spacing are suggested based on NFPA 1144. However, the crown spacing needed to reduce/prevent crown fire potential could be significantly greater due to slope, the species of trees involved and other site-specific conditions. Check with your local forestry professional to get advice on what is appropriate for your property.*

West Barnstable Fire Department



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Meet us and say hello at the following events:*

Flag Day • WB Tree Lighting • Community/ Group CPR/ First Aid Training • WB July 4th Parade • WB Village Day • BWB Fire Prevention • Cape Symphony Fire Prevention • YMCA Trunk & Treat • Emergency Preparedness Education Classes • BHS Career Fair • Kids Day @BHS • WBFD Trunk & Treat • WBCA Spaghetti Dinner • Rooster Crow West Parish Holiday Fair • Luke's Love Santa Arrival • CCCC Toys for Tots • Barnstable Community Day • Public Safety Appreciation Day • YMCA Healthy Kids Day

**Not all events are listed*



2025 Report of Whelden Memorial Library

On behalf of the Officers, Trustees, and Staff of Whelden Memorial Library, I extend our sincere gratitude to the West Barnstable Fire District Prudential Committee, Fire Chief David Paananen, and the citizens of the West Barnstable Fire District for your continued support of the library.



Fiscal Year 2025 was a year of steady growth and meaningful engagement for Whelden Memorial Library. The library welcomed **23,938 visits**, a **9% increase** over the previous year, demonstrating the library's continued role as a trusted and well-used community resource in West Barnstable.

Our collections circulated **35,067 items**, including more than **10,000 children's materials**, and we maintained a collection of approximately **63,200 items**, including books, audiobooks, DVDs, and downloadable digital materials. We continue to expand our popular **Library of Things**, offering shared access to record players, Tonieboxes, DVD and CD players, puzzles, creative kits, and museum passes—providing value and accessibility beyond traditional collections.



Programming remained a cornerstone of our services. In FY25, Whelden offered **269 programs**, including **185 in-person programs** and **84 passive or self-directed programs**, serving **2,835 participants** across all age groups. Weekly themed storytimes, seasonal reading programs, adult lectures, conservation-focused programs, and our Adult Learners Series continue to foster lifelong learning and community connection.

Whelden remains an important access point for technology and essential services. We provide free public computers, wireless internet, printing, scanning, and digital assistance for patrons who rely on the library for employment searches, government forms, education, and everyday needs. Flexible service options—including on-demand curbside service and after-hours materials pickup—ensure accessibility for patrons with varied schedules and mobility needs.





During FY25, we also advanced important accessibility improvements funded in part through a Libraries Transforming Communities grant, including repairs to the access ramp, updated signage, and installation of a new outdoor book drop. These enhancements improve safety and accessibility while preserving the historic character of our building.



In addition to municipal and district support, the library supplements funding through annual appeals, grant applications, and community-based fundraising efforts. Events such as our Haunted House fundraiser, participation in the Hydrangea Festival, hosting vendors during the Village Festival, seasonal bake sales, and the continued success of the Friends of the Whelden Library's year-round used bookstore all contribute to sustaining library operations and services.

At this year's Annual District Meeting, we respectfully request continued support of a **\$15,000 appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026**, consistent with prior years. This funding remains critical in sustaining our services, maintaining our historic facility, and ensuring Whelden continues to serve as a welcoming and accessible resource for the West Barnstable community.

With sincere gratitude, we thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Figaratto
Director, Whelden Memorial Library

2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

APRIL 30, 2025

The Annual Meeting of the West Barnstable Fire District was held at the West Barnstable Community Building, 2377 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149), West Barnstable, Massachusetts on **April 30, 2025**. In accordance with the provisions of the duly posted and published Warrant, the polls were open on April 30, 2025 for the election of District officials from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Serving as duly sworn tellers/ballot counters were Elaine Grace and Captain Kimberly Sylvia. With a total of 41 ballots cast, the results were as follows:

Position	Votes	Write-ins	Blanks	Errored Ballots
Prudential Committee/3 Years Dhiraj Malkani		1		
Prudential Committee/3 Years Dan Dewey		22		
			5	13
Totals	41	23	5	13
Water Commission / 3 Years Wayne Miller		4		
Water Commission / 3 Years Kris Clark		2		
Water Commission / 3 Years Kelly Depin		1		
Water Commission / 3 Years Dhiraj Malkani		1		
Water Commission / 3 Years Jill Smith		2		
Water Commission / 3 Years Nancy Trafton		1		
			21	9
Totals	41	11	21	9

Elected were Mr. Dewey to the Prudential Committee and Mr. Miller to the Water Commission.

At 7:00 PM, the meeting was called to order by District Moderator Michael Pierce, who determined a quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees.

Prior to commencement of voting on the articles in the warrant, Prudential Committee member Edward Smith asked for a moment of silence for former Chief of Police Neil Nightingale and shared an anecdote about Chief Nightingale’s interaction with President John F. Kennedy on the morning after his election as President.

The Clerk, Daniel Furbush, read the Call of the Warrant, confirmed that the Warrant had been served by posting a copy thereof at the West Barnstable Post Office, the Whelden Memorial Library, and at West Barnstable Fire Headquarters, all in the West Barnstable Fire District, at least seven (7) days before the date of the meeting, and further reported that, in accordance with District By-Laws, the Warrant had

been published in The Barnstable Patriot newspaper in the April 18, 2025 issue.

A booklet, containing the Annual Reports of 2024 and the Fiscal Year 2026 Warrant was mailed to approximately 1,495 residents of the District on April 14, 2025.

Articles were presented by Prudential Committee Members Edward Jay (Chair), Edward Smith and Chris Maki.

Article 1. Upon a motion made by Edward Jay and duly seconded by Chris Maki, it was unanimously voted to accept the reports of the Officers, including the minutes of the previous annual district meeting, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 2. Upon a motion made by Edward Jay and duly seconded by Van Northcross, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the **Fiscal Year** beginning **July 1, 2025**, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and Acts in amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of one (1) year or less in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 3. Upon a motion made by Edward Jay and duly seconded by Chief Paananen, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Six Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$6,159.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for Streetlight Service, said funds to be under the direction of the fire chief, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 4. Upon a motion made by Edward Jay and duly seconded by Kris Clark, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from certified free cash the sum of **Seventy-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Nine Dollars (\$78,309.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for debt service, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Treasurer, or to take any other action relative thereto, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 5. Upon a motion made by Edward Jay and duly seconded by Edward Smith, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eighty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$85,416.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for District Salaries for the following officers: Moderator, District Treasurer, District Accountant, District Clerk, Prudential Committee, and Records Access Officer, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

A question was proffered from a resident to the Moderator regarding the appropriate wording for approval or disapproval of an article for voting purposes. Moderator Pierce indicated that a positive vote should be voiced as the word “yes” and a negative vote should be voiced as the word “no.”

Article 6. Upon a motion made by Edward Smith and duly seconded by Edward Jay, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Sixty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars (\$68,834.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for the ordinary operating expenses of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 7. Upon a motion made by Edward Smith and duly seconded by Chris Maki, a West Barnstable resident, Mark Nelson, asked for an explanation of the basis for the twenty-six percent (26%) increase in the tax levy. Chief Paananen explained that the major portion of it was the new contract with the union. He indicated that the contract also covered nine firefighters and not the five full-time firefighters as were historically employed by the District. He also said the contract reflected the necessity to be more competitive with other fire departments on Cape Cod who have historically attracted trained West Barnstable part-time firefighters to full-time positions at a far higher pay scale. Mr. Nelson asked if overtime costs would decrease because of the new hires and Chief Paananen responded that he never claimed that hiring additional firefighters would reduce overtime, which is primarily used to provide training and shift coverage. Resident Robert Depin asked if the increase was for new or existing staff and the Chief responded it was existing staff. Resident Nancy Blanchard asked what the implications for the next fiscal year might be and the Chief said that with the current economic and political environment, it is impossible to predict what will happen for FY 2027.

The motion was moved to a vote by Moderator Pierce and with a majority approval it was voted to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Two Million Seven Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Five Dollars (\$2,774,805.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for the operation of the West Barnstable Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief, or to take any action relative thereto, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024** and distributed to the voters.

Article 8. Upon a motion made by Edward Smith and duly seconded by Edward Jay, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Five Hundred Eleven Thousand Two Hundred One Dollars (\$511,201.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** to fund miscellaneous district obligations, said funds to be expended under the direction of the fire chief, or to take any other action relative thereto, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024** and distributed to the voters.

Article 9. Upon a motion made by Edward Smith and duly seconded by Chris Maki, to see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)** for Fiscal Year 2026 to the Reserve Fund, resident Hilary Sandler asked for more details regarding the balances of the various funds. Chief Paananen detailed the balances of the various funds which totaled **Seven Hundred Ninety Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$790,718.00)**. Resident Mark Nelson asked why if these funds totaled that large a sum, the levies were rising so much. Chief Paananen responded that it makes sense to be cautious with using funds to offset rising costs and it is the policy of the department to maintain healthy balances in the funds, again voicing

concerns about the economic and political environment. Kris Clark asked what happens to funds that are approved but not used and the Chief responded that they become free cash for the following fiscal year if approved by the state. Ms. Clark asked for the amount of free cash that was approved for the current fiscal year and the Chief answered **Two Hundred Eight-Five Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars (\$285,492.00)**. Moderator Pierce moved the motion to a vote, and it was unanimously approved to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)** for Fiscal Year 2026 to the Reserve Fund, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 10. Upon a motion made by Edward Smith and duly seconded by Chief Paananen to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)** to the Ambulance Stabilization Fund in **Fiscal Year 2026** or to take any other action relative thereto, a West Barnstable resident, Robert Depin, asked for the current balance of the Ambulance Stabilization Fund and Chief Paananen provided the balance as well as an explanation of the rising costs for an ambulance replacement with extended delivery timeframes. Moderator Pierce moved the motion to a vote, and it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from free cash the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)** to the Ambulance Stabilization Fund in **Fiscal Year 2026**, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 11. Upon a motion made by Chris Maki and duly seconded by Edward Smith, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$17,200.00)** for Fiscal Year 2026 to fund an audit of the West Barnstable Fire District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 12. Upon a motion made by Chris Maki and duly seconded by Edward Jay, to transfer and appropriate from certified free cash the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000)** for **Fiscal Year 2026** for Whelden Memorial Library services, resident Kris Clark said that she was encouraged by residents concerned with the resignation of trustees from the Library's Board of Trustees, to urge the refusal of voters to fund the article. She continued that as a not-for-profit entity, Whelden Library lacked fiscal accountability fostered by the Director. In addition, Ms. Clark cited the handout that was placed on every chair in the meeting hall prior to the start of the meeting, again urging that the article not be funded. Andrea Figaratto, who is also the Whelden Memorial Library Director, read from a statement detailing the numerous audit and oversight requirements of the library. She explained the budget process of the library and explained that the financial reports of the library had been presented to the Prudential Committee, who following review, had no questions about the financial operation of the library.

She indicated that the dispute is based on personal enmity and a meeting to negotiate differences had been held but no positive results came of it. She praised the library's staff and explained that if the Whelden library's certification were revoked, that the revocation would extend to all village libraries in Barnstable. She indicated that the Board votes on deficits and approves deficit budgets, expecting that fund raising and contributions will make up for the short fall. Board of Trustees Treasurer Debra DeJonker-

Berry said that the library is an accredited not-for-profit organization and that the Board of Trustees votes on deficit budgets every year. She welcomed contributors and volunteers to join in support of the library, saying that the library has a contract with the town and has always passed audits. She encouraged the two sides to stop the non-productive activity and find acceptable positions to support the organization.

Resident Hilary Sandler, a past president of the library trustees, spoke of the many fundraising efforts the library undertook when she was involved and that there were fourteen trustees during her terms as president. She indicated that the reduction in the number of trustees is emblematic of the community's lack of faith in the library. Resident Lisa Hendricksen asked how many trustees there are at present, and Ms. Sandler said there are now five trustees.

Resident Robert Depin said that there had been no increase in the amount of the yearly funding in his experience, not even for inflation adjustments.

Resident Van Northcross mentioned his five terms on the Prudential Committee and that the amount of the article was not a large amount, nor is it a gift. It must be spent under the Prudential Committee's oversight. He then motioned to move the question, and it was seconded. The Moderator indicated that a motion to close debate on the question was in front of the meeting and asked for a vote. The motion to close debate was unanimously approved. He then called for a vote on the article. In deference to the discussion, he requested the Clerk perform a physical count of hands for the vote and Mr. Furbush did so. The vote was twenty-nine for and five against. The motion to transfer and appropriate from certified free cash the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000)** for Fiscal Year 2026 for Whelden Memorial Library services as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters was passed with majority approval.

Article 13. Upon motion made by Chris Maki and duly seconded by Edward Jay, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from certified free cash the sum of **Ninety-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$97,500.00)** for Fiscal Year 2026 to the Other Post Employment Retirement (OPEB) Trust Fund, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Treasurer, or take any other action relative thereto as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Article 14. Upon a motion made by Chris Maki and duly seconded by Edward Smith, it was unanimously voted to transfer funds appropriated for Article 17 of FY 2025 **Seventy-Six Thousand Dollars (\$76,000.00)** to FY 2026 Article 14 for the purpose of contracting for preliminary plans for renovations and additions for Fire Department Headquarters Located at 2160 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable, MA. Funds to be expended under the direction of the Chief as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters

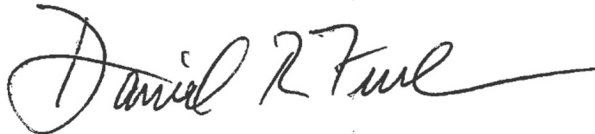
Article 15. Upon a motion made by Chris Maki and duly seconded by Edward Jay, to see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)** to fund Professional Services on behalf of the Water Commissioners, said funds to be expended by the Water Commissioners, or to take any other action relative thereto, a question was posed to the Water Commission Chair, Mark Nelson, by resident Dhiraj Malkani about the allocation of the funding from the

previous fiscal year. Mr. Nelson indicated that the funding was used for consulting services and additional funding from this year would allow the Commission to engage additional professional services around the issue of the new well that the Town wants to locate in West Barnstable. He said that his understanding is that any unused funding goes back to the general fund for the following year. He said that the Commission would be hosting a presentation on the water issues in West Barnstable on May 12, 2025. Mr. Maki spoke in support of Mr. Nelson's expertise, saying it was important for the future of water in West Barnstable to have experienced advocates like Mr. Nelson. The moderator then put the motion to a vote, and it was unanimously approved to transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)** to fund Professional Services on behalf of the Water Commissioners as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2024**, distributed to the voters.

Prudential Committee member Edward Smith recognized Chairman Jay's three years as a member of the Prudential Committee, saying that he would not be returning to the position in the next fiscal year. He praised his leadership and stewardship of the Prudential Committee in his role as Chair. The attendees gave Mr. Jay a standing ovation in appreciation for his service.

There being no further business before the meeting, the **2025 Annual West Barnstable Fire District Meeting** was adjourned sine die at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel R. Furbush". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel R. Furbush, District Clerk

DOCUMENTS USED THIS SESSION:

Annual Meeting Warrant

Motions for Articles on Warrant

Annual Reports Booklet of 2024

Handout placed on each chair by Kris Clark and others:

"West Barnstable Residents Concerned About the Fiscal Management of Whelden Memorial Library"

Numbers to Keep on Hand

Emergency Numbers

- **Ambulance:** **911**
- **Fire:** **911**
- **Police:** **911**

- Poison Control: 1-(800) 222-1222
- Animal Poison Control: 1-(888) 426-4435
- Eversource: 1-(800) 592-2000
- National Grid: 1-(800) 233-5325



IMPORTANT: 911 should be used rather than calling a department directly on non-emergency numbers. Services provided through the enhanced 911 system will not be available when using non-emergency numbers and will cause delays. During an emergency, we can serve you better if you call 911.

Non-Emergency Numbers

West Barnstable Fire	(508) 362-3241
Barnstable Police (non-emergency)	(508) 775-0387
State Highway (Roadway Debris)	(857) 368-3500
Cape Cod Gateway Airport	(508) 775-2020
Cape Cod Community College	(508) 363-2131
Elder Services	
Cape Cod & the Islands	(508) 394-4630
Barnstable Housing Authority	(508) 771-7222
Barnstable County	
Department of Health & Environment	(508) 375-6613
MA State Disaster Line (non-emergency)	Dial 2- 1- 1
Information: Shelter locations, Transportation restrictions	
Post Office- West Barnstable Location	(508) 362-1750

Town of Barnstable (TOB)

Animal control	(508) 790-6274
Barnstable Public Schools	(508) 862-4953
Cemeteries	(508) 790-6320
Citizen Resource Line	(508) 862-4925
Harbor Master	(508) 790-6273
Public Health Division	(508) 862-4644
Highway Division	(508) 790-6330
Natural Resource	(508) 790-6272
Sandy Neck Gate House	(508) 362-8300
Storm Line (Storm updates/information)	(508) 862-4636
Structures & Grounds	(508) 790-6320
Town Hall	(508) 862-4956
Transfer station	(508) 420-2258
Water Pollution	(508) 790-6335
Whelden Memorial Library	(508) 362-2262

West Barnstable Fire & EMS Association
2160 Meetinghouse Way
P.O. Box 955
West Barnstable, MA 02668



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U.S. POSTAGE
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WEST BARNSTABLE, MA 02668

Learn to Use a Fire Extinguisher

**The WBFD can teach you to use a fire extinguisher using our live fire training prop.
Call us to schedule.**

Learn CPR/AED

Call the fire station at (508) 362-3241 to schedule a CPR Class.

**Fire District Annual Meeting – Wednesday, April 29, 2026 – 7PM
West Barnstable Community Building – Election from 5PM to 7PM**