



Holmen Area Fire Department

FIRE COMMISSION

AGENDA

710 South Main Street
Holmen, WI 54636
www.holmenfire.com

Date/Time: Thursday February 5, 2026 @ 6:30 pm
Location: Town of Holland Town Hall, Holmen, WI, 54636

The Holmen Area Fire Commission will hold a regular meeting on February 5, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the Town of Holland Town Hall.

All items on the agenda indicate items for discussion and possible action.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 1.) Call to Order
- 2.) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3.) Roll Call
- 4.) Approval of the Agenda
- 5.) Approval of January 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- 6.) Resident or Employee Concerns/Comments

The Commission may receive information from the public and department employees, but reserves the right to limit the time that the public/employee may comment, as well as the right to limit the degree to which members of the public and employees may participate in the meeting.
- 7.) Fire Administration Report (Chief Ostreng)
 - a. General Fire Department Stats
 - b. Staffing/Personnel Updates
- 8.) Commission Chair Report
- 9.) Unfinished Business
- 10.) Closed Session
 - a. Convene in Closed Session
 - i. The Board shall consider a motion to convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. To Wit:
 - a. Consideration of Fire Captain – Training Officer candidate and promotion.
- 11.) Reconvene in Open Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. §19.85(2)
- 12.) Reservation of right for action and/or recommendation on Closed Session items(s)
- 13.) Consideration of Next Meeting Date



www.holmenfire.com

14.) Adjourn

Note: Meeting agenda and meeting packets are available at www.holmenfire.com. Printed meeting agenda and packets will be available by request only. Call the Holmen Area Fire Department at 608-526-9363 prior to noon the day of the Fire Commission meeting to request your printed copies.



www.holmenfire.com

Date Notice Emailed: 02/03/2026

Notices Posted: 02/03/2026

Notices Emailed To:

Holmen Area Fire Commission	Board/Town/Village	Media	Posted
Patrick Brockman - Holland	HAFD Members/IAFF L127	Holmen Courier	Holmen Area FD
James Bushman - Holmen	Marilyn Pedretti	La Crosse Tribune	Town of Holland
Neal Forde - Holmen	Scott Heinig	La Crosse Radio Group	Village of Holmen
John Miller - Holland	Angela Hornberg	WXOW	Holmen USPS
Barry Ploessl - Holmen	Rhonda Hesselberg	WKBT	Holmen Library
	Joe Kovacevich	WIZM	www.holmenfire.com
	Kristie Tweed	FOX2548	
	HAFD Admin		
	HAFD Fire Board		

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject To Change Before Approval By The Holmen Area Fire Commission

Holmen Area Fire Commission Meeting Minutes: January 6,2026

Meeting Location: Town of Holland Town Hall - Holmen, WI 54636

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was promptly called to order by Chairman Barry Ploessl at 6:31pm.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Neal Forde, Village of Holmen; John Miller, Town of Holland; Barry Ploessl, Village of Holmen, James Bushman, Village of Holmen, Patrick Brockman, Town of Holland.

Also Present: Ryan Ostreng, Fire Chief.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Brockman, with 2nd by Commissioner Miller to approve the agenda as posted. Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 30, 2025 meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Bushman with second by Commissioner Forde to approve the minutes. This motion was unanimously approved.

RESIDENT OR EMPLOYEE CONCERNS/COMMENTS:

None were presented.

FIRE ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Chief Ostreng reported the response level since we met last has been busy, bringing the 2025 YTD total to 1,370. This YTD total is 239 ahead of last year. This represents an all-time record for HAFD calls.

COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT:

Nothing reported.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None at this time.

CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Commissioner Brockman, with 2nd by Commissioner Bushman to convene in Closed Session. -Discussion regarding the Fire Captain-Training Officer interview process. Unanimous approval.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:

Motion by Commissioner Bushman, with 2nd by Commissioner Brockman to reconvene in Open Session. Unanimous approval.

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject To Change Before Approval By The Holmen Area Fire Commission

Holmen Area Fire Commission Meeting Minutes: January 6, 2026

RESERVATION OF ACTION FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEM(S):

1-Motion by Commissioner Miller with 2nd by Commissioner Forde to extend the position posting to 30 days from the initial posting date of 12/18/25.

2- Motion by Commissioner Bushman with 2nd by Commissioner Forde to: Utilize a promotional process similar to the most recent Fire Captain promotional process, and, the adaption of the two presented timelines to be selected based on the number of candidates, excluding the Fire Commission interview. Motion approved 3-1, with 1 member abstaining.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next meeting of the HAFC is scheduled for Feb. 3, 2026.
Other potential meeting dates were mentioned for March 2 and May 26.
All meeting dates will be confirmed by Chief Ostreng as needed.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Commissioner Brockman, with a second from Commissioner Miller to adjourn. This motion passed with unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully recorded and published by John Miller, Commission Secretary.
January 7, 2026

CALLS BY MONTH

	2017	-/+	2018	-/+	2019	-/+	2020	-/+	2021	-/+	2022	-/+	2023	-/+	2024	-/+	2025	-/+	2026	-/+
JANUARY	74	23	74	0	103	29	83	-20	83	0	113	30	92	-21	99	7	101	2	130	29
FEBRUARY	82	23	71	-11	80	9	71	-9	80	9	92	12	97	5	90	-7	96	6		
MARCH	81	8	65	-16	107	42	64	-43	111	26	112	1	103	-9	84	-19	103	19		
APRIL	90	23	87	-3	97	10	85	-12	104	19	122	18	130	8	83	-47	85	2		
MAY	85	22	92	7	82	-10	70	-12	101	31	131	30	114	-17	83	-31	113	30		
JUNE	76	-4	90	14	98	8	83	-15	88	5	91	3	94	3	97	3	111	14		
JULY	79	0	98	19	80	-18	92	12	109	17	104	-5	101	-3	98	-3	136	38		
AUGUST	82	-14	87	5	84	-3	97	13	125	28	104	-21	113	9	110	-3	126	16		
SEPTEMBER	64	5	84	20	77	-7	90	13	113	23	128	15	97	-31	89	-8	118	29		
OCTOBER	80	22	82	2	87	5	109	22	132	23	100	-32	120	20	104	-16	139	35		
NOVEMBER	89	21	94	5	77	-17	106	29	94	-12	109	15	107	-2	103	-4	121	18		
DECEMBER	64	-8	77	13	85	8	102	17	109	7	109	0	118	9	91	-27	121	30		
TOTAL	946	121	1001	55	1057	56	1052	-5	1249	176	1315	66	1286	-29	1131	-155	1370	239	130	29

**CALL TYPES RESPONDED TO
FOR JANUARY**

<u>INCIDENT TYPE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Fire	3
Medical	97
Hazardous Situation	6
Rescue	0
Public Service	8
No Emergency	16
Assisting Law Enforcement	0
	130