

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.

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