

DRAFT- SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

2026 Fire/EMS Budget

Town of Ulysses

Sept. 11, 2025

The meeting was held in person at the Village Hall at 74. W. Main Street., Trumansburg NY as well as via Zoom videoconference. Notice of Town Board meetings are posted on the Town's website and Clerk's board.

*Video recordings of meetings are available on Youtube at
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWVIs--q9CpHlxdk9YxZyPw>.*

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

ATTENDANCE:

TOWN OFFICIALS:

In person:

Town Supervisor- Katelin Olson
Board members- Rich Goldman, Michael Boggs
Deputy Town Clerk- Casey Beck

OTHERS:

Village of Trumansburg officials:

In person:

Village Mayor- Rordan Hart
Village Clerk- Jessica Giles
Deputy Village Clerk- Jessica Weber
Village Trustees- Ben Carver, Ben Darfler, Marcia Horn
Fire Chief- Matt Taylor
Fire Lieutenant- Dan Scherer
EMS Administrator- Joel Fey

Others:

Matt Muraca, Rachel Ostlund

Via Zoom: Tim Manheim

Town of Covert Officials:

In person:

Town Supervisor Michael Reynolds
Board Member Deb Nottke

Town of Hector Official:

In Person:

FIRE BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Hart reviewed the fire budget lines that are increasing:

Personal	4.3%	Clerk + deputy work time
Contractual	28.6%	Building, equipment + general repairs
Gas & Electric	36.4%	Rises in cost annually
Gear/maintenance	5.6%	Rises in cost annually
Small Equipment	20%	Monitoring system
Vehicle Repair	34.6%	2010 Fire truck in need of repairs
Insurance	15.0%	Rises in cost annually
Telephones	22.6%	Rises in cost annually
Fire-Retirement	42.9%	Chief Taylor retiring at the end of 2025
Fire-Medical/Hosp	117%	Includes portion of Village Hall office staff

Reserve Funds:

Fire Apparatus	11.1%	Vehicles + equipment. Spring 2026 new fire truck.
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Ms. Olson and Mr. Hart discussed financing the cost of the new vehicle versus purchasing.

Mr. Scherer and Mr. Taylor discussed the Fire Department's low volume of volunteers (43). They plan to increase their recruitment numbers but also explained retention is the most difficult aspect once volunteers have joined and taken the necessary classes.

There is currently discussion of Interlaken covering approximately 2 square miles of the Trumansburg Fire Department area. The initial assessment has been completed. Chief Taylor is awaiting a contract from Interlaken to proceed.

Ms. Olson requested more details about this.

EMS BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Hart discussed the EMS budget deficits from the past 3 years. Currently 15-20% of EMS calls received are out of district.

Mr. Carver and Mr. Fey reviewed the EMS lines that are increasing the most:

Personal Services	4%
Contractual	119% Contractual and shift of resources
Gas & Electric	15% Rises in cost annually
Training	27% Rises in cost annually

Vehicle Maintenance	76% Fly car and 2 ambulances need replacement
Office Supplies	13%
Workers Comp Ins.	31%
Telephone	28% Rises in cost annually
Pager, Radio, Gear Repair	25%
Monitor Lease	86% Monitor leasing
EMS retirement	29%
Reserve Funds:	
EMS Equipment	25%
EMS Vehicle	11%

The group discussed billing in addition to the Mutual Aid revenue received by the Village. There is no revenue from the county or from the municipality that Trumansburg EMS has been covering.

Ms. Olson suggested meeting again in six months to plan how to recoup more revenue in addition to comparisons from other municipalities.

Mr. Carver said he would be happy to check in in six months. The last evaluation of EMS billing rates was 2022.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Casey Beck, Deputy Town Clerk 5-7-21