

**Town of Brentwood Municipal Budget Committee**  
**Minutes of August 27, 2026 site visit at Fire Department**

*Committee Members:* Jim Hajjar (chair), Michelle Siudut (secretary), Kat Niemiroski

*Staff:* Chief Roy Olsen

*Members of the public:* Doug Finan, Letty Bedard

4:31 pm start time. Chief Olsen discussed several facility needs:

- Fire alarm panel will not dial out. It is 16 years old, should last at least 20 years. No one knows why it won't work.
- Conference Room needs to be updated for Emergency Management
- Server was hit twice by lightning and needs to be replaced.
- AC units outside are rusting
- Generator is having problems. Chief was told there is no service contract. Chief signed a new contract, but was told we will likely need a new generator. Chief stated that if the Emergency Book is updated (which is supposed to be done every 5 years, but hasn't been done since 2016) we would be eligible for FEMA grants. All possibilities are not being explored to obtain grants.
- Siding has cracks, needs maintenance

Discussion about who is The Overall Maintenance Person for the town. Not sure if there is one, but it would be helpful if one person was overseeing it all.

Equipment.

- Oldest ambulance is 2006 or 2008, with almost 100K miles. This is the next vehicle to be replaced. A new one is on order, but it is a 26 month build time.
- \$13-\$14K has been spent on maintenance for Engine 1. We are on track to replace Engine 1 in 5 years. Current cost for that is \$1M. The town has been putting \$50K in a CRF each year, but this will not be enough to purchase; Chief suggests increasing the annual amount.
- Waiting for tank for new truck; impact fees were used for this purchase.

Revolving accounts. Chief has concerns that interest from the revolving account have been going into the general fund. Chief had asked the former treasurer to put the money into an interest-bearing account, but he refused. It is now in a CD and the new treasurer is going back to 2025 to bring the account current. Chief said he has asked for receipts for every expenditure but has never received them. Chief is technically responsible for this fund and is uncomfortable with the lack of information. Chief's wife does government finance; she has made suggestions to town employees but they have refused to implement her recommendations.

A bill submitted in 2025, was not paid on time. It has now been paid using 2026 funds. Chief is upset about this as it should have been paid last year, and now his current year budget will be negatively impacted.

ISO rating. Chief is working to reduce our current rating, to help lower insurance premiums for residents.

Question was asked if the Fire Station has hired cleaners; Chief said no that the staff take pride in doing that themselves.

Plaistow EMS is supposed to be paying \$1K per month to rent 2 bedrooms. They have not paid anything this year because there is no contract. Chief has asked the town to provide a contract so we can send invoice. Additionally, he said that to continue utilizing the regional ALS model, there will need to be a warrant this year to show the cost of \$15,000 for FY2027 and increasing to around \$96K in year 5 to include adjustments for inflation.

The visit concluded at approximately 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Siudut, Secretary