

Speial meeting for the fire department

Date Junes 27, 2026

At 17:00

At station 2

Open the meeting: motioned by Kory 2nd by Mike.

The board has voted unanimously to accept Robbie Phelps resignation as fire chief. There were 5 yes votes and 0 no votes. Motions carried.

The board has voted unanimously to accept Michael Phelps resignation as assistant chief. There were 5 yes votes and 0 no votes. Motion carried.

Jared Dixon has been appointed as interim chief until voting for a new chief can be done by the fire department and approved by the board.

Public comment: Joe Cambell has been requested by the fire department to step down as the president of the board, due to his relationship with both Robbie and Michae Phelps. There was a unanimous vote by the fire department members. There was also a pction for this submitted to the board.

There is a complaint that when Michael Phelps left the department, he locked out the department from the ability to order supplies, the ability to access the outlook account, and the ability to access I AM RESPONDING account.

There has been a request to investigate the memorial account due to funds missing that cannot be accounted for. A list of the money amounts listed has been provided to the treasurer for investigation. There has also been concern raised about Amazon purchases on the department account that have not been verified. The department has requested an investigation into these as well. This information has also been submitted to the treasurer.

Evan Schmalshof asked if the board could explain why or what incident this special meeting was held with regard to and why it was noticed on short notice and why the agenda was simple "policy and procedures" and whether the board believes that provided adequate notice of the business to be discussed?

He was informed that the meeting was posted 48 hours prior to the meeting in standing with governmental regulations.

He continued. Who are the allegations against and what is their status with the department, if removed who is currently assuming those roles?

Second, if the board has received allegations involving the potential of public resources or other matters that could warrant independent review and potential criminal actions. Has the board referred to those allegations to an independent law enforcement agency or taken steps to preserve relevant information? If so, who is conducting the investigation, and if not, what is the board's process for deciding whether such a referral is appropriate?

There was no answer to all the questions asked, but investigations into the allegations by the board's treasurer are being carried out. If discrepancies are found, they will be moved forward to an independent law enforcement agency.

There were no other questions at this time.

There was a motion to end the meeting by Joe, at 17:20 2nd by Mike.

Meeting adjourned.



Colchester Fire Protection District


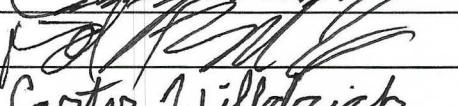
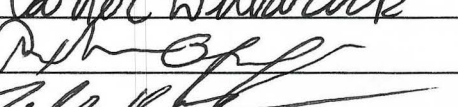
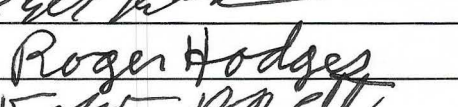
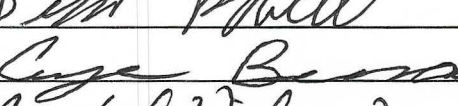
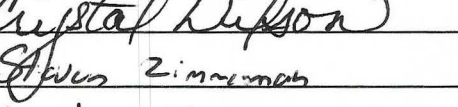
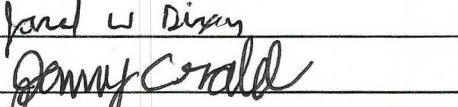
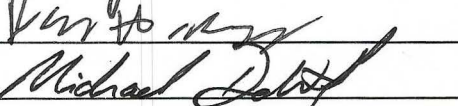
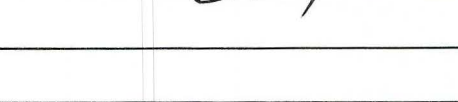


We, the undersigned members of the Colchester Fire Protection District, respectfully petition the Board of Trustees to immediately remove Joe Campbell from the office of President of the Board of Trustees and request his resignation as a Trustee. Should the Board decline to take such action, we respectfully request that this petition be forwarded to the McDonough County Board, as they are the appointing authority, with a recommendation that Mr. Campbell be removed from the Board of Trustees and replaced by an individual who can restore public confidence in the governance of the District.

This request is based upon our collective loss of confidence in Mr. Campbell's ability to serve impartially, objectively, and in the best interests of the Colchester Fire Protection District. Following the events surrounding the Board's handling of allegations involving members of his family, Mr. Campbell continued to preside over Board proceedings without recusal despite the appearance of a significant conflict of interest. His actions have undermined the confidence of the membership and have damaged trust in the Board's ability to fairly administer the affairs of the District.

Further, the membership has serious concerns regarding the Board's actions surrounding the June 15th meeting, including whether the meeting complied with the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. These concerns have further eroded confidence in the integrity and transparency of the Board's decision-making process.

The undersigned members have conducted a vote regarding Mr. Campbell's continued leadership. That vote resulted in a unanimous expression of no confidence in Mr. Campbell's ability to continue serving as President of the Board of Trustees. This loss of confidence is based upon his conduct and handling of these matters and is not dependent upon the ultimate outcome of any investigation or proceeding involving the Fire Chief or Assistant Chief.

The Colchester Fire Protection District cannot function effectively without trust between its governing Board and its members. We no longer believe that Mr. Campbell can provide the impartial leadership necessary to restore that trust. For these reasons, we respectfully request that appropriate action be taken to remove him from his appointment as Trustee.

- 1) 
- 2) 
- 3) Carter Willard
- 4) 
- 5) 
- 6) Roger Hodges
- 7) 
- 8) 
- 9) Crystal Wilson
- 10) 
- 11) 
- 12) 
- 13) 
- 14) 
- 15) _____
- 16) _____



Colchester Fire Protection District

To the Colchester Fire Protection District Board of Trustees,

I request that the Board meet with former Chief Robert Phelps and former Assistant Chief Micheal Phelps to facilitate a smooth transition of critical department account usernames and passwords and critical information.

Thank you,

Acting Chief
Jared Dixon



Colchester Fire Protection District

To the Colchester Fire Protection Board of Trustees,

I would request that the Board look into a matter involving our Fire Department Memorial Account. Looking at our bank statements there is \$10,776.92 worth of payments made to Citi and Discover cards. To my knowledge the Fire Department does not hold any known credit cards. The Board of Trustees has reimbursed \$8,292.31 to the CFPD Memorial Account. I would request that the Board review receipts turned in and payments made to explain the discrepancy of \$2,484.61. On June 24th 2026 I went to UCB Colchester and verified that Roger Hodges, Crystal Wilson, and I were the only members on the Memorial Account that were authorized to make payments and these transactions were not of our doing.

Thank you,

Acting Chief
Jared Dixon

Jared W Dixon
Crystal Wilson
Roger Hodges



Colchester Fire Protection District

To the Colchester Fire Protection Board of Trustees,

According to the CFPD policy manual in section 4.9 members who voluntarily resign must return all district property prior to departure. I would request that the Board look into a missing Lenovo ThinkPad laptop that was last known to be in the possession of former Chief Robert Phelps.

Thank you,

Acting Chief
Jared Dixon



Colchester Fire Protection District

To the Colchester Fire Protection District Board of Trustees,

I would like to bring to light issues involving the separation of Assistant Chief Micheal Phelps from the Department. On the evening of June 23 2026 around 7:00 PM Assistant Chief Micheal Phelps turned in his CFPD property and left the firehouse leaving everyone under the assumption he was resigning from the Fire Department completely. Micheal later locked us out of the colchesterfire@outlook.com email account and Microsoft OneDrive account which completely cut off our ability to have access to any CFPD documents such as incident run sheets, payroll programs, training rosters, OSHA compliance documentation, and virus protection leaving the department vulnerable to cyber attack and HIPPA violations. This action by Micheal is a violation of Section 5.8 of the CFPD policy manual to withhold essential information from the Department. Micheal then locked us out of all department websites such as the websites we obtain medical supplies from, our admin access to I Am Responding System which is a program that sends out our calls for service to our members phones, and many other programs leaving the department at a disadvantage moving forward in serving the community.

A more detailed report on this matter can be given at a later date. I have not had time to prepare a complete report due to added work in maintaining functionality of the Department in these troubling times.

Thank You,

Acting Chief
Jared Dixon



Colchester Fire Protection District

To the Colchester Fire Protection District Board of Trustees,

I would like to formally request that President Joe Campbell recuse himself from tonight's meeting and any further meetings regarding the current issues present at the Colchester Fire Protection District due to the clear conflict of interest with him being the step father of former Chief Robert Phelps and former Assistant Chief Micheal Phelps. President Joe Campbell has been present and involved in previous meetings on June 10th and June 15th of 2026 as has proven his inability to act impartially, objectively, and in the best interest of the Colchester Fire Protection District due to his family relationships in the Colchester Fire Protection District.

Thank you,

Acting Fire Chief
Jared Dixon

Policies and Procedures Meeting 6-27-26

1. Open meeting

2. Policy and Procedures Section 21

Section 21.10 - Move that the Board of Trustees vote to accept the resignation of Chief Phelps

Section 21.10 – Move that the Board of Trustees vote to accept the resignation of Asst Chief EMS Phelps

Section 28

Section 28.10.2 – Asst Chief Dixon is the highest ranking officer at this time and will be the POC for the Board.

Section 28.8.1 – The department needs to form an election committee and vote on a new Chief

Section 28.9 – Board Confirmation of the Election, the Board of Trustees will review the election results and approve if the requirements are met at the 7-14-26 meeting.

3. Public Comments on Policy and Procedures will be limited to 3 minutes

4. Close Meeting