

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOANK FIRE DISTRICT  
10 WARD AVENUE  
**MEETING MINUTES**

Date: July 12, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Noel.

Committee members present: Katherine Rathbun, Michael Noel, David Steel

Others present: Michael Gale (Fire Chief), Charlie Chaffee (Fire Marshal), Russ Fowler (Water Superintendent), Frank Lewis (Assistant Water Superintendent), Cindy Steel (Treasurer), Nancy Gilmore (Clerk)

**II. Public Comments**

Jim Furlong spoke of his desire to have Noank Water Company move forward quickly on getting funding for public water on Fishtown Lane and Little Gull Lane. He would like it to be affordable to the residents. He is concerned about power outages causing residents to lose water. He would like Noank Water Company to pursue funding through the State Revolving Fund. Bill Loweth of 262 Crosswinds said Noank Water Company paid the bill for him to get water. Mr. Furlong would like to see the whole area updated.

Peter Drakos asked about a dangling line at Spicer Park. David Steel will look into it. Russ Fowler will check with the state about the portable toilet and dumpster still on the property.

Jim Furlong read a statement from Matt Schoman which estimated the public water for Fishtown Lane and Little Gull lane would be over \$1,000,000. Mike Noel asked Russ to contact the state regarding the process required for funding. Furlong also stated he thought a sidewalk on Fishtown Road would be a very good idea. Jim Furlong will find out how many residents in the area are interested in getting connected to public water. Cindy Steel talked about how the process worked on Groton Long Point Road. Frank Conahan stated they will not be able to get a consensus without knowing how much it will cost the residents. Katherine Rathbun and Mike Noel will talk to the fire district lawyer regarding what sort of agreement will be required with the residents. Jim Furlong will be the point of contact for all communications.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A motion (Rathbun/Steel) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting June 14, 2022 with a minor correction passed.

**IV. Reports of District Officials**

Michael Gale reported for the Fire Department. In June they had 0 fire calls, 16 EMS calls, 1 Hazmat, 9 Other calls for a total of 26 calls. The tires and rims on the 46 truck were replaced. The Memorial Day Parade went very well.

Charlie Chaffee gave the Fire Marshal Report. All inspections of the building have been completed. Inspections were performed at 5 Center Street, 145 Pearl Street, Black & Blue Restaurant, Short Ribs Cafe (Esler Point Beach Food Trailer, Palmer's Provisions, and 36 Main Street. He received a plaque from the

International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc. for his 35 years of service and untiring efforts in the conduct and furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the IAAI.

Russ Fowler reported for the Water Company. There were 9 CBYD calls. He attended 2 training classes. They have started work on the Anderson Marsh.

The Executive Committee is still waiting for the ZEO report for May.

Cindy Steel gave the Treasurer's report. The bank account is in better shape this year than it was at the end of June 2021.

**V. Communications**

**VI. Old Business**

Katherine Rathbun read Larry Dunn's proposal for election changes. The Committee agreed it would be nice to know who is running. Chairman Mike Noel commented having a period of time to question candidates during the annual meeting could potentially be disruptive and take a very long time. The rest of the Executive Committee concurred. Questioning candidates during the election might also violate laws regarding campaigning during an election. They will consult with the lawyer about changes. Based upon the discussion, Larry Dunn will revise his suggestion.

Mike Noel will contact Mark Berry regarding the best way to make the \$5,000 donation to the NSPG. He wants to make sure it is not used for normal maintenance.

**VII. New Business**

A discussion regarding accessory apartments (CT Public Act 21-29) followed. Rick Smith gave a summary of the ACT and stated the Zoning Commission had voted to opt out. They felt there were more options by opting out. The NFD Executive Committee agreed with, and voted unanimously, to accept the position of the Noank Zoning Commission on this issue.

A discussion of the needs of the Noank Village Park occurred. The picnic tables require maintenance or replacement, swing seats need replacing, graffiti needs to be removed, the plexiglass in the notice box needs to be fixed. A sign should be displayed asking users of the tennis court to limit their time to one hour when people are waiting for the courts. David Steel and Michael Noel will help Rob Warn with these issues.

Trash rates were established beginning September 1, 2022. The tipping fees are going up as well as a \$200 monthly fuel surcharge we are paying to the trash hauler. A motion (Steel/Rathbun) to raise rates to \$240 passed.

A discussion regarding replacement costs for insurance purposes occurred. It was decided to get clarification from our insurance agent.

**VIII. Other Business**

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Gilmore  
Noank Fire District Clerk