

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

Date: 8 November, 2022

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Michael Noel.  
Committee members present: Katherine Rathbun, Michael Noel, David Steel  
Others present: Michael Gale (Fire Chief), Russ Fowler (Water Superintendent), Frank Lewis (Assistant Water Superintendent), Nancy Gilmore (NFD Clerk)

**II. Public Comments**

Paul Bates brought to the attention of the Executive Committee the letter from the Groton Town Clerk reaffirming the authority of subdivisions.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A motion (Steel/Rathbun) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting October 11, 2022 as amended passed.

**IV. Reports of District Officials**

Michael Gale reported for the Fire Department. In October there were 26 EMS calls, 2 Hazmat , 1 fire and 8 others. The fire was a small grass fire which occurred at the Fisherman on October 11. The battery on the G46 defibrillator failed and has been replaced. The pumps on both G41 and G42 failed the vacuum test. Pete Kelley is looking into it. All hose and ladders passed. Michael Gale and Charlie Chaffee attended the NLCFC meeting at Shipman's on October 5th. Michael Gale attended the Groton Fire Officers meeting at Center Groton FD.

Charlie Chaffee reported for the Fire Marshal's office. The monthly inspections were performed. The Open House went well. Chaffee will attend an IAAI two day class November 18 and 19. He is recertified for 3 years.

Russ Fowler reported for the Water Company. He got recertified. Lead and copper testing requirements are changing. Russ attended a conference on Lead and Copper testing. One of the sites tested in Noank failed the Copper and Lead test. They will do 3 tests: 1 from faucet, 1 behind faucet, 1 from far away from faucet. There is an issue with water leaking at Noank Shipyard. NS will be shutting down the water in two weeks. Noank Water Company will shut down one dock at a time until the leak is found. The hydrant flushing taking place at 205 Elm Street on a weekly basis will be discontinued. It has been found the problem is in the internal pipes at The Congregate. The solution is to keep the water running all night from one of the faucets.

Russ announced the American Legion will no longer be running the Memorial Day Parade. The Noank Fire District will need to organize and run it. A request for volunteers will be posted on the fire district website.

Mike Noel read the Zoning Enforcement Officer's Report. There were 11 permits issued in October.

**V. Communications**

Michael Noel informed committee members the Town of Groton has hired a consulting firm to create a comprehensive parks and recreation master plan.

**VI. Old Business**

The Fishtown Lane/Little Gull Lane proposal for public water was discussed. The issue of the need for space requirements for the water pipe was discussed. Little Gull Lane is a private road. The water pipe needs to be 12 feet from the sewer pipe.

**VII. New Business**

The suggestion from Rick Smith (Zoning Commission Chairman) to hire a planner was discussed. Smith expects it will be a saving to the Noank Fire District as it will reduce the need for legal advice. Rick thinks 4-6 hours a week would be sufficient. Tom Olson of Crosswinds sent an email suggesting the entire Zoning Commission be dissolved and the Noank Fire District go by Groton Zoning Regulations. Rick Smith also suggested the planner could work on the water project. It was decided to think about the proposal and discuss again at the next meeting.

**VIII. Other Business**

A request for volunteers to serve on the Park Commission will be put on the fire district website. Nancy will ask Rob about the picnic tables.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Gilmore  
Noank Fire District Clerk