

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

Date: 13 June 2023

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

Others present: Michael Gale (Fire Chief), Charles Chaffee (Fire Marshal), Frank Lewis (Assistant Water Superintendent), Ted Rathjen (Water Company), Nancy Gilmore (NFD Clerk)

II. Public Comments

None

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion (Rathbun/Noel) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting May 9, 2023 as amended passed.

IV. Reports of District Officials

Michael Gale reported for the Fire Department. In May there were 13 EMS calls, 1 fire, 2 Hazmat, 11 others for a total of 27 calls. On May 3, Chaffee and Gale attended NLCFC meeting at Flanders Fire Department. On May 11, Pete Kelley and Francis Scalley attended training on Lithium – Ion batteries at Mohegan Sun. On May 22, the Department held Sexual Harassment training. 15 members attended and 2 others completed the training on their own. The Department held their Annual Banquet at Ram Island Yacht Club on May 19. The Electric Vehicle Disabling Unit has been purchased. A battery powered chain saw has been put into service on G46.

Charles Chaffee reported for the Fire Marshal's office. The monthly inspections at the firehouse were performed. Costellos was opening without an inspection. ISS checked out the problem alarm for the generator room. A loose wire was causing it. Three O2 bottles were delivered to OMFd for filling. Chaffee is having issues with Master Box 2121. Shipmen's annual fire extinguisher inspection was completed. Mystic/Noank Vet Hospital Knox Box Keys were updated. The P.W. fire extinguisher was accidentally discharged in the basement.

Ted Rathjen reported for the Water Company. There were 7 CBYD calls in May. The 3" pipes were checked for leaks. Flushing will occur July 10 – 14.

Mike Noel reported for the Zoning Enforcement Officer. There were 26 permits issued in May.

Cindy Steel reported for the Treasurer's office. She reported that she has received responses from several of the delinquent customers.

V. Communications

The office has received several emails opposing the cell tower at 70 Marsh Road. A motion (KR/DS) to join the cap program at Densmore Oil passed.

VI. Old Business

Ted Rathjen and Frank Lewis have worked on the loan for water on Fishtown Lane. The rate for the loan is variable based upon many factors. We would be responsible for 25% on a 1.6 million dollar grant they are also looking into. We must qualify for a grant. It has been suggested we meet with the state. The Water Company is currently waiting on a loan, waiting on a grant. They are looking for more grants.

It was reported it is time for us to replace the flagpole. The current flagpole with its crack does pose a safety issue. It was also discussed whether we need another flagpole in the park since there is one at the firehouse. It was decided to take down the current one and reassess the need to replace it at a later date.

The need for the Noank Fire District to hold a special meeting to discuss the Tarpon Cell Tower and vote on engaging the services of counsel regarding this project was discussed. Since the cost will exceed \$5000, a special public meeting would be required. Robinson and Cole cannot represent us as there is a conflict of interest. It was decided to hold a special meeting on Thursday, June 22 for this purpose. This meeting will be posted in The Day on Thursday, June 15.

VII. New Business

VIII. Other Business

IX. Adjournment

A motion (KR/DS) passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Gilmore
Noank Fire District Clerk