

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NOANK FIRE DISTRICT
10 WARD AVENUE
MEETING MINUTES

Date: 14 November 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, David Steel
Others present: Michael Gale (Fire Chief), Charles Chaffee (Fire Marshal), Frank Lewis (Water Company), Nancy Gilmore (NFD Clerk). Cindy Steel (Treasurer)

II. Public Comments

Peter Drakos reported there would be a Public Hearing regarding the SB Butler property and what to do with it.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion (Rathbun/Steel) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 10, 2023 as presented passed.

IV. Reports of District Officials

Michael Gale reported for the Fire Department. In September there were 2 fire calls, 15 EMS, 1 HazMat, 15 Other for a total of 33 calls. On October 11, the department responded to a couch fire at 28 Tautog Street in Groton Long Point. There was minor damage and no injuries. On October 29th, the department responded to a garage fire at 37 Sylvan St. Mutual aid from Groton Long Point, Mystic, Old Mystic, and Poquonnock Bridge, and Subase Fire departments as well as Mystic River Ambulance and L&M Medics. There was significant damage but no injuries. Chafee and Gale attended NLCFC meeting at Shipman's on October 4. Gale attended a GLD FD Banquet. On October 14, the annual Open House was held. It was well attended. On October 25, Gale attended the GFO meeting at Center Groton Fire Department. It was report that the ARPA funding is eligible to part time employees but not volunteers. Gale will work with Kevin Fitzgerald regarding the distribution of the \$15,000 slated for the Noank Fire Department.

Charles Chaffee reported for the Fire Marshal's office. The monthly inspections at the firehouse were performed. An inspection was performed at the Noank Village Pre-School. A fire investigation was performed at 37 Sylvan Street. The loss was estimated at \$50,000. He met with the Insurance Investigator at 37 Sylvan Street. Chaffee met with the Noank Village Boatyard about the sprinkler system. They replaced the flow sensor.

Ted Rathjen reported for the Water Company. There were 8 CBYD calls in October. A water main leak call was made regarding 158 Pearl Street. It was

determined to be due to saturated soil and an irrigation system. There was a major water main leak at 182 Pearl Street. The cause of the break was the use of a vibratory compactor. Groton Utilities was called and the repairs were made. The aging fire hydrant at the corner of Chesbro and Pearl was replaced. Several meetings with the Engineer discussing future upgrades to our system and finalizing state requirements for the Anderson Marsh Culvert Projects. Rathjen attended the Lead Service Inventory System Training Course hosted by the Department of Health. The Water Company worked alongside public works during the fall repaving. Marsh Road repaving was put on hold until the Spring. A suggestion was made by David Steel to move the hydrant in the park to the corner of Main and Sylvan. Chuck Toal has been hired by the Water Company to assist Ted.

David Steel reported for the Zoning Enforcement Officer. There were 9 permits issued in October.

Cindy Steel reported for the Treasurer's office. She reported the Fire District expenses are on track. She still needs to do some work in the presentation of the Water Company report.

V. Communications

Mike Noel reported a particularly offensive email got sent out by a resident right before Tarpon canceled the informational meeting. Tarpon's plan to use 70 Marsh Road for the cell tower may not be over but the committee is hopeful, and the nasty email is not worth commenting on.

VI. Old Business

There are no updates on the water grant.
There is no update regarding the Tarpon Cell Tower.

VII. New Business

The Committee will get a couple of bids for the trash contract. The current ones expires in May 2024.

A water rate discussion will be on the agenda for December Meeting.

VIII. Other Business

Mike Noel thanked David Steel for all the work he did in the meeting room.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn (Steel/Rathbun) passed at 7:34 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Gilmore
Noank Fire District Clerk