

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

Date: 05/12/2026

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Noel.
Committee members present: Michael Noel, Katherine Rathbun, David Steel
Others present: Michael Gale (Fire Chief), Ted Rathjen (Water Company Superintendent), Frank Lewis (Water Company), Charles Chaffee (Fire Marshal), Cindy Steel (Treasurer), Nancy Gilmore (NFD Clerk)

II. Public Comments

III. Minutes

A motion (DS/KR) to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 14, 2026 as presented was approved.

A motion (KR/DS) to approve the special meeting minutes of April 16, 2026 as presented was approved.

IV. Reports by District Officials

Michael Gale presented the Fire Chief's report. The department responded to 28 incidents: 1 fire call, 16 EMS calls, and 11 other calls. On April 10, Gale attended the Poquonnock Bridge Fire Department Award Ceremony at Thrive 55. On April 18, CINTAS completed the five-year sprinkler inspection and quarterly testing. On April 22, Noank hosted the Radio User Committee meeting and the Groton Fire Officers Meeting. On April 23, several members attended Marine Group training at Groton Long Point. On April 30, Chaffee and Gale attended Fire Marshal training in Rocky Hill.

Charles Chaffee presented the Fire Marshal's report. The monthly building inspections were completed. A zoning issue at 12 Pearl Street was investigated. The Fire Marshal cannot conduct an inspection of one or two family homes. Parking on Main and Pearl Street is becoming more of an issue. Cars are parking on the left side of Pearl Street at the Main Street intersection interfering with emergency vehicle access from Main Street. There is now a No Parking sign in place on Pearl Street. Inspections were done at 85 Elm Street and 117 Pearl Street. A fire investigation was done at 571 Fishtown Road for burning without a permit. The following Training/Meetings happened in April: NLCFCA meeting at Franklin Fire, OEDM at Rocky Hill, GFO at Noank Fire, Marine Group Training at GLP Casino.

Ted Rathjen presented the Water Company Report. In April Groton Utilities reported a usage spike. This was due to ruptured pipes during the cold spell. A major leak was discovered in a service line. NWC had also advised homeowners to run their faucets to prevent frozen pipes. Chuck Toal and Ted met with the CT

Department of Health regarding the EPA mandate on service line materials. NSC has 7 years to comply by identifying materials in 20% of the system to rule out lead. The estimated cost for this initiative is \$135,000. Karl Acimovic and Ted met with CTDOT regarding the Amtrak bridge project and the creation of a permanent bypass connection between GLP Road and Prospect Hill Road. NWC is responsible for the anticipated \$140,000 construction cost which will be reimbursed upon the project completion. The Elm Street Culvert Project is complete and invoices have been submitted to CTDOT. NWC received approval to reduce the lead/copper monitoring schedule to once annually with only 10 samples. There were 6 CBYD calls in April. NWC is requesting assistance to secure capital for the Amtrak project as well as the 25% for the \$1,000,000 grant. They request a meeting with the grant representative and members of the NFD to discuss how to proceed.

Bill Mulholland gave the ZEO Report. 8 Permits were issued in April. Mulholland continues to monitor STR issues. There is an increase in zoning revenue due to the increased fee prices.

Cindy Steel presented the Treasurer's Reports and fund balances.

V. Communications

None

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

The plans for the annual meeting on May 19 were discussed.

VIII. Other Business

A motion (DS/KR) to submit a budget of \$680,220 with a mill rate of 1.69 passed.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn (DS/MN) passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Gilmore
Noank Fire District Clerk