

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

Date: 07/14/2026

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 (KR/DS) to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 9, 2026 as presented was approved.

IV. Reports by District Officials

Michael Gale gave the Fire Chief Report. During June there were 18 EMS calls, 1 Hazmat Call, 14 Other calls for a total of 33. On June 5, Gale performed a Smoke detector check at 144 Brook Street. On June 9 Gale and Chaffee attended Fire Marshal training in Willimantic. On June 12, Chaffee and Gale attended a Marine Rescue Drill in GLP. On June 19, Chaffee, LT Bajors, FF Scalley and Gale attended Training Class, Managing the Mayday, in Old Mystic. On June 23, the downstairs bathroom light sensor was replaced. On June 24, Chaffee and Gale attended IAAI training in North Haven. On June 25, Gale met with Ritchie Brothers Inspector at Mystic FD. Gale said he would like to hire Eric Knobloch to be the Assistant Engineer. That was approved by the Committee.

Charles Chaffee gave the Fire Marshal report. The monthly building inspections were completed. Inspections were performed at 19 Pearl Street, 15 Riverview Ave, and 135 Pearl Street were completed. A violation Re-inspection was performed at 5 Center Street. Chaffee attended the following training/meetings in June: NLCFCA meeting at JLN, OEDM Eastern CT Fire School, IAAI Seminar North Haven, Marine Group Training 1900 in GLP, Commanding the MAYDAY Old Mystic Fire, Marine Group GLPVFD, Sgt. Stackpole Badge Minning GLPPD. Parking on Main and Pearl Streets is still an issue but improving. The same sign may need to be installed at Main and Front Streets.

Ted Rathjen gave the Water Company Report. The following areas were covered:

Compliance and Leak Detection

Meter readings identified a usage increased reading at Noank Village Boat Yard. NWC assisted in locating the source of the leak and it was repaired.

USDA Grant Update

Fire District Chairman Michael Noel, Stan White and Rathjen to discuss the grant's framework. A primary concern was that the work performed on Potter Court would not be able to be used as the 25% capital required to access the grant. NWC has received confirmation will be credited in full.

Upcoming Infrastructure Projects

NWC is replacing many fire hydrants installed in 1961. They are also looking into installing one or two hydrants in Tanglewood to service areas that lack coverage. NWC will need to try each gate valve to see if they require replacement as well. The second project involves the dead-end design at Mystic River Homes. They are looking at eliminating the dead-end or installing a timed flushing valve that would flush a calculated amount of water into a storm drain. Additionally, they are waiting for the design for the Amtrak temporary/permanent bypass.

Operations Update and Assistance Request.

Hydrant flushing is complete for the season, and two hydrants were placed out of service. This year, NWC successfully completed 100% of the flow data, a task usually scheduled over a four-year period. There were 12 CBYD requests for the month. NWC is collecting GPS data and upgrading their tap cards. They have made good progress toward completing the system.

Cindy Steel presented the Treasurer's Reports. They were the completed reports for the fiscal year ending 06/30/2026.

V. Communications

None

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

Trash rates for 9/26 – 8/27 were discussed. It was agreed to leave them at the current rate of \$230 per year.

VIII. Other Business

The auction of the old fire truck was discussed. It will be put up for auction on August 5, 2026.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn (KR/DS) passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Gilmore
Noank Fire District Clerk