

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
NOANK FIRE DISTRICT  
10 WARD AVENUE

Date: 03/10/2026

**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**

None

**III.** A motion (DS/KR) to approve February 10, 2026 meeting minutes as presented passed.

**IV. Reports by District Officials**

Michael Gale reported for the Fire Chief. During February, there were 24 EMS calls, 1 Fire call, 3 Hazmat calls, 13 Other calls for a total of 41. On February 23, the Department responded to a garage fire at 103 Brook St. A First Alarm was initiated bringing units from Groton Long Point, Mystic, Old Mystic and the Submarine Base. Two ambulances from Mystic River Ambulance and one L&M medic also responded. Four occupants were medically evaluated at a neighbor's house. Gale would like to commend all those who responded. There were multiple difficulties encountered due to the blizzard, but personnel were able to overcome them and keep the fire from spreading to the rest of the house. The same night the department responded to 93 Pearl Street for a CO detector activation and found over 36 PPM of CO in the furnace room. Four individuals were evaluated on scene. On February 2, the department received the new G41 from MES Shipman's. On February 3, Plymovent installed the new exhaust recovery boot for G41 and moved the boot for G42. On 2/4 Overhead Door replaced the springs on the main bay door. On 2/5 the department held driver training on the new G41 with the Apparatus Representative. On 2/8 the department responded to Weston Rd in Groton Long Point for a CO detector activation. Over 400 PPM of CO were found in the furnace room. On 2/12 Communications Plus installed the radios on the new G41. After the Feb 22 snowstorm the department spent multiple days shoveling hydrants. During the month, Department drivers trained in operating the new G41. On 2/26, the new G41 was placed into service.

Charles Chaffee reported for the Fire Marshal. The monthly building inspections were completed. A fire investigation was performed at 103 Brook Street. The fire loss amounted to \$400,000. Chaffee brought up the problems with parking at the corner of Main Street and Pearl Street. Michael Noel will notify the Town of Groton about the problem.

Ted Rathjen reported for the Water Company. There were 2 CBYD calls in February. On 2/1 and 2/12 water tests for 60 Seneca Drive were performed looking for the cause of the blue water coming out of their faucets. The water tested was within the perimeters of CT Department of Public water quality standards. Unfortunately, the cause has not been determined, but it may be due to light rays and very cold water from the reservoir and system. On 2/9 the Water Company shoveled hydrants. On 2/6 Rathjen attended a conference call with G2, CT DOT, and Karl Acimovic regarding the Amtrak bridge replacement. Rathjen met with Chuck Toal to review ESRI. On February 18 Rathjen had a call with Frederick Thaler to discuss the design and possibility of an alternate bi-pass location rather than an above ground temporary main for the Amtrak Bridge Replacement. NWC received a call about a sink hole on the corner of Main and Church. NWC attended the house fire on Brook Street to prevent hydrant problems. On February 24, they began shoveling hydrants after the storm.

Bill Mulholland gave the ZEO Report. There were 12 permits issued in January 2026.

Cindy Steel presented the Treasurer's Reports. There was nothing unusual.

**V. Communications**

None

**VI. Old Business**

**VII. New Business**

A coffee hour will be held in the basement of the Fire House from 9-11 on Wednesdays and Fridays.

A budget meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 6PM.

A motion (DS/KR) to approve a new lock system at 10 Ward Ave was approved.

**VIII. Other Business**

**IX. Adjournment**

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Gilmore  
Noank Fire District Clerk