

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department
Annual Meeting
August 26, 2019

President Paul Padua called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

There was a moment of silence for past and deceased members.

Chief Matthew Ludwig presented his annual report to the membership.

Judy Ludwig conducted the elections. The following members were elected.

Executive Officers

President – Paul Padua

Vice President – Kitty Hickcox

Secretary – Judy Ludwig

Treasurer – Katie Hester

Board of Trustees

Richard Byrne

Ted Hinman

Daryl Byrne

Line Officers

Fire Chief – Matthew Ludwig

1st Asst. Chief – Brian Hutchins

2nd Asst. Chief – Jon BARbagallo

Captain – Steven Hutchins

Lieutenants

Car 5 – Rowland Denny

Car 6 – Brad Funk

Car 7 – Mike Fox

EMS Captain – Dan Wuori

Mechanics

John Hutchins

Ken Ludwig

The Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

NVFD Annual Chiefs Report
August 26, 2019

During the FY 2018-2019 the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department responded to 180 calls for service.

42 - Auto Alarms	4 - Vehicle Fires
24 - Burnt Food	4 - Haz-Mat incidents
21 - Wires Down/Burning	3 - Chimney Fires
19 - Motor Vehicle Accidents	3 - Brush Fires
15 - Assist EMS	3 - Building lock outs
10 - Stand-By/Station Coverage	1 - Carbon Monoxide (CO) incident
7 - Building Fires	1 - Assist State Police
6 - Search & Rescue	1 - Smoke investigation
7 - Cellar Pump outs	1 - Tree across the road
7 - Cancelled Enroute	1 - Duck Rescue from a storm drain

The 2018-2019 Departmental Statistics are:

1,841.71 - Staff hours from dispatch to incident completion

1,532.45 - Staff hours of Non-Incident departmental activities

1,633.36 - Staff hours of Training

5,007.52 - Total recorded staff hours logged by NVFD personnel in FY 2018-2019

The membership of the NVFD continues to log many hours of training to meet annual State, Federal, and OSHA requirements. We respond to emergencies, ensure our equipment is in good working condition, and support the community as we manage the many facets of our town's volunteer fire department. As I've said in previous years and still to this day, there is always something happening down at the firehouse.

In 2018/2019 the NVFD membership was busy responding to Accidents, Alarms, Building fires in and out of town, and many other calls for service. These emergencies come at all times of day and night. Without our members continued dedication to training and quick responses, the outcomes of these incidents, and the lives affected, would be greatly impacted.

The membership of the NVFD works tirelessly throughout the year staffing and managing the many fundraisers and town gatherings sponsored by the department. With the community's support and our hard work and labor, we were able to purchase a complete vehicle extrication system (Jaws-of-Life) consisting of a Cutter, two Spreaders, and a Ram for engine 40. The technology available in 2019 has improved so much that these new tools are battery powered, giving our rescuers an untethered advantage when extricating patients trapped in vehicles. This new addition takes the capabilities of our department another step forward in keeping up with the newer safety features and technologies being offered on today's motor vehicles.

Keeping up with other forms of technology available, our members and department began utilizing the Spotted Dog/Rover app. With two large display boards in the station and one in the towns EOC, our members are able to update their availability and response giving our officers and drivers the ability to properly staff apparatus leaving the station for emergencies. Inputting all of our preplans, maps, and limited access responses, every member can be informed of address specific challenges with a quick glance of their phone enroute to the scene. This technology is another tool in the tool box to allow the citizens we serve to have the best possible outcome when they need the services of the NVFD.

On March 13, 2019 our department was dispatched to assist the Sheffield Fire Department for a reported house fire. Upon arrival, Norfolk and several other crews found themselves in the middle of a fully involved house fire which tragically revealed the murder/suicide of five people. Our members worked together with several other responding companies to stop the spread of an intentionally set fire, preserve evidence, and worked with investigators during the following days to piece together what occurred leading up to this unfathomable act to be able to provide as many answers as possible to the families and neighbors affected. I applaud every member that answered the call that day, Thank you.

Discussions are ongoing within the NVFD Building committee. Members have visited stations and continue moving forward with plans for a renovation and expansion of the current station that meets State and Federal standards to properly house the lifesaving tools and apparatus the community of Norfolk so heavily relies on.

The NVFD is not all about firefighting, our members come together several times a year continuing the departments public relations with many of the Town events and outreach programs to bring the citizens together which further supports the mission of the Fire Department and the Town of Norfolk.

I would also like to acknowledge the support that the Cadets provide to the membership of the department which is always appreciated. Going into their 35th year of service, this program is vital in sparking the interest in young adults and filling the roles and ranks of the department later in their firefighting and volunteering careers.

The commitment of our membership never goes unnoticed; our efforts are continuously appreciated and even applauded by both our residents and those in neighboring towns.

We have welcomed 11 new members to the rank and file this year and continue our membership drive of neighbors helping neighbors. We constantly look for new members that can offer assistance in any capacity. Help is always needed, from firefighting to administrative functions; we encourage anyone with a desire to help our community's emergency services to apply.

In closing I would like to thank the Town of Norfolk and the citizens we serve, for without their generosity and continued support, we would not be the department we are today!

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew J. Ludwig', written in a cursive style.

Matthew J. Ludwig
Fire Chief
Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department
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