

**Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department
Annual Meeting
Aug. 26, 2024**

President Paul Padua called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

He asked for a moment of silence for our past and deceased members.

Chief Brian Hutchins presented his annual report.

**NVFD Annual Chiefs Report
August 26, 2024**

During FY 2023-2024 the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department responded to 227 calls for service.

43 - Automatic Alarms	2 - Lock-Out
37 - Medical Assists	1 - Good Intent Call
28 - Motor Vehicle Accidents	4 - Chimney Fire
10 - Canceled Enroute	2 - Fire in Structure Other Than Building
17 - Burned Food	2 - Rescue, EMS incident
19 - Wires Down	2 -High-angle Rescue
4 - Hazardous Conditions, Other	2 – Electrical Wiring/Equipment Problem
1 - Assist CSP	2 - Service Call
3 - Brush Fires	1 - Rescue or EMS Standby
1 - Standby/Station Coverage	4 - Nothing Found on Arrival
6 - Building Fires	21 - Severe Weather Assessment
5 - Basement Pump Outs	3 - Severe Weather Standby
4 - Carbon Monoxide Incidents	1 – Lightning Strike
1 - Vehicle Fires	
1 - Trash Fires	

The 2023-2024 Departmental Statistics are:

2,637.15 - Staff hours from dispatch to Incident completion

2,410.5 - Staff hours of non-incident departmental activities

2,066.45 - Staff hours of Training

7,114.1 - Total recorded staff hours logged by NVFD personnel in FY 2023-2024

To say that Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department has been extremely busy this year would be an understatement. This dedicated team of your neighbors and friends have kept their nose to the grindstone continuously. As you can see with the numbers referenced above there are three categories of activities our members fill their time with.

Training is the most important act a member can take part in. Being on the forefront of technology and tactics allows the department to handle any emergency in an efficient and safe manner. Norfolk Fire prides themselves on being proactive, so this year, to meet an ever-increasing need. Eight members sought out a certification as an Emergency Medical Responder since the number of EMS calls that the fire department participates in has risen steadily in the last five years. Our harmonious work with the

Norfolk Lions Club Ambulance during medical emergencies ensures citizens have the best care in their time of need.

The state and federal requirements put upon the members regarding training is constantly increasing. In addition to meeting the mandated topics our members also seek out beneficial courses to add knowledge and experiences. Ten members attended a class hosted by the Barkhamsted Fire District, charged with delivering the maximum amount of water to the scene of a fire. Over half of the attendees had twenty plus years of experience, showing that you can teach old firefighters' new tricks.

Non incident activities is the largest of the three categories. Events, meetings, fund raisers, and more are all included here. Public Relation missions, such as Fire Prevention Week at Botelle School and Weekend in Norfolk festivities help us to be in the community and put a face to the names. Memorial Day and the Road Race are some of our favorite yearly happenings that we are honored to have a part in.


This year has also featured plenty of meetings. Our Building Committee is working hand in hand with the town's Firehouse Committee to help design and fund a state-of-the-art facility to serve the Town of Norfolk for many years to come. Our departmental Truck committee has designed and taken delivery of a new Brush truck. This four-wheel drive fire apparatus allows us to extinguish fires outdoors and assist in rescues. The wonderful thing about this undertaking is the zero dollar cost to the taxpayers of Norfolk.

Norfolk Fire Department secured an Assistance to Firefighter Grant for the second time in three years. Over \$180,000 of federal monies to help fire companies throughout the nation. This endeavor, in partnership with our friends at Winsted and Winchester Center fire departments, will allow us to replace all our "Scot" Airpack tanks. A vital piece of equipment that helps us make entry into a burning building and extinguish the fire.

In my experience no two emergencies are alike. And this year there definitely was challenge and diversity. 227 calls for service are on the remarkably high side. Twenty years ago, one hundred alarms would be a banner year. September 10, 2023, Norfolk Fire was dispatched to a house fire on Litchfield Rd. The amount of interior fire operations and the level of humidity necessitated the largest mutual aid response to Norfolk for a fire related emergency in over 25 years. Memorial Day contained a new experience for the department. Six distress calls were received from Litchfield County Dispatch that needed to be addressed. A motor vehicle fire, an EMS assist call, and four Motor Vehicle Accidents. The final and most emergent requiring the "jaws of life" to free the victim.

It is an absolute honor to be able to submit this annual report summarizing the year of accomplishment and commitment shown by all members. Firefighting is not the only job at Norfolk Fire. Business, support, and clerical tasks are needed to make this a well-oiled machine. Anyone from age fourteen on up can join today.

Respectfully



Brian Hutchins

Fire Chief

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department

Election of Officers followed, with the election of the following:

President – Paul Padua

Vice President – Martyn Banks

Secretary – Judy Ludwig

Treasurer – Angela Hutchins

Board of Trustees _ Richard Byrne, Todd Miller, Kerry Yelsits

Chief – Brian Hutchins

1st Asst. Chief – Matthew Ludwig

2nd Asst. Chief – Steven Hutchins

Captain – Scott Padua

Lieutenants – Car 5 Justin Zarzycki, Car 6 Mike Listorti

EMS Captain – Ashley Allyn

Mechanics – Gary Bottom, John Hutchins

Judy Ludwig

NVFD Secretary