

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2025

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

The President asked for a moment of silence for our past deceased members.

There were 30 members present.

**Secretary's Report**

M/S/P John DeShazo, Kerry Yelsits to accept the Minutes of April 7, 2025.

**Treasurer's Report**

We are at 76% of the Town Budget

M/S/P Matt Ludwig, Todd Miller to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**Officers' Reports:**

**Chief's Report:**

Thank you everyone for your participation and response this month.

When responding to the station or to the scene please remember to proceed on the streets with due regard for people and motorists. This is not to single anyone out, we have all had moments where we could slow down a little. We do not need anyone injured responding to an emergency and the townspeople expect a certain level of professionalism from us.

After some observations at recent brush fires, we have acquired new red forestry helmets. If you are working "in the black" at a brush fire, or there is potential to, please have a helmet on. Brush 50 and Squad 20 will have a cache, if all helmets are out, please use your FD issued headgear. If you are driving or riding in Unit 70 for fire or rescue operations, wear a helmet. Non-negotiable. OSHA is looking at this following a LODD in Connecticut last year at a brush fire.

Memorial Day will be here very shortly. The sign-up sheet is at the station. We are asking everyone who is on the NVFD roster to please sign up for one task if you are around the town that day. Festivities start at 0700.

We were made aware that the FD budget for next fiscal year would be the same as last year. We worked very hard and presented the BOS with a \$132,400 budget on 2/11/25. At the town's budget presentation meeting it was shown at last fiscal years \$127,725, for a 0% increase. We did not receive any communication about this prior and are trying to get further information.

We are going to attempt to burn the barn on School House Rd this Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 0900.

The radio switch over is this month. According to the state we will be ready to reprogram our stuff before the planned May 12<sup>th</sup> switch over date. We shall see if this is correct. Please be patient with the new system as we will all be in the same boat. It will take a little bit to figure out what works best for us.

This month Car 6 is the trainer. Some dates to know. 5/8 at 1830 there will be rehab trailer training at EMS headquarters. Members can learn how to set up equipment after the trailer is delivered. 5/12 drill is canceled. Please attend the town budget vote at 1900 (7pm), along with any other voters in your household. The new firehouse depends on it.

June 27<sup>th</sup>&28<sup>th</sup> there is a large race at Lime Rock. We will be involved. 100% confirmed at this time is Engine 40 and Tanker 100 covering at the Falls Village firehouse from 0600 to 12 noon. Unit 70 will probably be involved but there are conflicting information regarding. I will have the plan by the next meeting.

Second alarm brush fire is now up and running at LCD. Signs are up at the station.

Reminder all drivers, have a backup spotter for NVFD equipment.

Friday May 9<sup>th</sup> is the groundbreaking for the Haystack Woods complex. NVFD has been invited. Commemoration starts at 1100.

### Car 2:

**Monday, May 12th town vote 7p. Need 100% attendance with significant others. Friends, family, all to vote yes for the new firehouse.**

Road race prep underway. Need all hands on deck for Memorial Day. 7a at the FD. Motion for \$600 for open house refreshments and supplies

Saturday, May 24th 11am station cleanup and truck washing

We were awarded one (1) pallet of canned drinking water – 2,352 cans From Anheuser-Busch in partnership with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC).

Hose testing July 28th thru Aug 5th. As we get closer, we'll see what day is for Norfolk.

The state MCV was requested for the road race to boost our talk group communication for the day.

Radio cutover is next week, May 12th. The state may be ready for the new programming push this week or next. If that doesn't happen, our backup plan is to use 800 command 3 and the old ht1250 portables. They will have the ability to talk to LCD. the 800 coverage area in the center of town is the issue but vhf works.

Pager programming. Will still alert for calls but you won't hear the "Response" of what's going on, units signing on, etc. programming Mondays at drill

Events for the month are in FireTek. Please RSVP

**M/S/P** Matt Ludwig, Justin Zarzycki for \$600. for funds for Memorial Day funds to come from Department funds. Board of Trustee approval.

**Car 3:**

New helmets are in, make sure you wear the, especially for brush fires. If new helmets are all in use, you must wear your fire helmet.

All trucks were vacuum tested, E90 and E30 failed and will be worked on. They still work, so use them. They will be repaired before pump testing.

**Car 4:**

No Report

**Car 5:**

Working on pump testing for drivers, tentative May 19, 2025. Any driver or pump operator can show up.

**Car 6:**

No Report

**EMS Captain:**

No Report

**Public Relations:**

Memorial Day, weather permitting, a C130 flyover will happen.

Class on Regional Rehab on May 8, 2025, at the ambulance barn at 6:30

Regional rehab trailer will be at Lime Rock. Looking for at least 2 people to man it, gets you into the race free! Will be supporting EMS operations.

**Fire Marshall:**

No Report

**Mechanics:**

No Report

**Cadets:**

No Report

## **LCD:**

Elections were held, no change in executive board. Union negotiations for a new contract are still ongoing, Union did not ratify it.

## **Committee Reports:**

- **House Committee:**

Thank you to Todd, Roberta, Theresa for providing chili dinner tonight.

**M/S/P** Matt Ludwig, Todd Miller for \$50.00 for flowers for Memorial Day.

- **Fund Raising:**

No Report

- **Insurance Committee**

No Report

- **Building Committee**

Nice job Matthew Ludwig for the presentation to the town regarding the new firehouse.

**Plan to attend the Town Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 7:00 to vote yes for the new firehouse.**

- **Anniversary Committee**

Silent Auction is Sept. 6, 2025, at the Curling Club. Donation forms will be available at the end of the week.

- **Truck Committee**

No Report

- **By-Law Committee**

No Report

## **Correspondence:**

Invitation from Tunxis Hose for their parade, posted at the firehouse.

### **Old Business:**

Memorial Day, parade will march down the normal way, but will march back to the firehouse by going behind the church. Do not want trucks on 44. Request has been made for 2 CSP for parade due to the construction on Rte. 44. Bands have been informed of the change in the route. Veterans will hold a brief salute at the 911 Memorial.

There will be a cancer screening at the fire school in Burrville, in the fall, Hartford Health Care has been working on it. National council has been looking at what CT has been working on for firefighter screening.

### **New Business:**

Scholarship program possible change of guidelines for children of members who do not live in town.

**M/S/P** John DeShazo, Richard Byrne to change the language of the scholarship application to read “applicants must be a resident of Norfolk or a member of the NVFD”. 4 abstentions

Judy Ludwig  
NVFD Secretary