

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2026

President Paul Padua called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

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

There were 34 members present.

**Secretary's Report**

**M/S/P** Todd Miller, Jeff Rydel to accept the Minutes of March 2, 2026.

**Treasurer's Report**

We are at 57% of the Town Budget

**M/S/P** John DeShazo, Matt Ludwig to accept the Treasurer's report.

**Officers' Reports:**

**Chief's Report:**

- May 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Fire/EMS meeting at 8am at Ambulance Headquarters. I would like to make a motion not to exceed \$100 for food (Department Funds)
- We are making ID tags for everyone. Red interior, black exterior, orange cadet.
- May 9<sup>th</sup> is our live burn at the Litchfield County Fire Training facility. From noon to 4pm. We will make a motion for food at next month's meeting. We really need everyone to attend at any training level.
- Car 1 is the trainer this month.
- April 13<sup>th</sup> is the curling club washdown.
- 20<sup>th</sup> is a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing class by a guest.
- As you can see from the vote earlier, things are going positively in our favor as of late. Our presentation to Board of Finance was well received. We also met Senator Blumenthal who will try to secure federal funding for our new engine. Thank you for everyone's arduous work.
- Strike team/ Task Force info has been restructured for the area.
- Mountain Rd bridge at Westside is now officially closed. Estimated until Thanksgiving. Effective April 6, 2026, Mountain Road bridge is closed. Hopefully open by Thanksgiving.
- Reminder that station coverage responses are a cold response. No lights or sirens.
- We need a new label maker for the FD. Motion not to exceed \$30 from department funds.

**M/S/P** Brian Hutchins, Judy Ludwig to appropriate \$100.00 for food, for the May 2, 2026 joint NVFD/NLCA meeting to come from department funds.

**M/S/P** Matt Ludwig, Justin Zarzycki to spend \$30.00 for a new label maker to come from department funds.

**Car 2:**

-It's Spring, watch out for soft shoulders.

-NVFD Navy Blue T-shirts. 26 members signed up, Looking to get (2) T-Shirts for members (52 total. \$15.50ea). Motion for \$806 Dept funds with trustee approval.

- if members want a hoodie, more shirts, youth sizes, long sleeves, the pro-store link will be active to buy your own. Not for the general public

-Marching polos. Have 8 Members that need apparel. (\$60ea with embroidery). Motion not to exceed \$500. Dept funds. Reminder that kaki pants and flat black shoes to complete the uniform.

-NVFD Winter/3-Season jackets. Have 17 Members that signed up. Total \$6375. Looking for grants to fund these.

-Sent a grant application in to Nutella/NVFC for an electric rotary saw and 2 E-chainsaws. \$4800. Also the pancake kit

-Town Clean-up Saturday April 25th. 9-noon. helping for an hour is just as good. Let's Thank the community that has thanked us.

**Winsted Area Chiefs Report:**

-Safety first hose testing presentation. Looking for best cost to quality and speed. 1500'-2000'/hr tested and packed \$0.30/ft \$3.25/foot ladders, \$25 each suction

-SAFER reimbursement Grant. Set of gear, physical, FF1 for new members brought in after Jan2026.

-RIT class coming up at the school

-Q class at fire school

-UTV/ATV class. With trail to drive on at fire school (July)

-Forestry class with Kronick at fire academy in conjunction with FF1. Open to area depts

-Mike LaMere 25yo Captain in Winsted had a rare cancer in his leg come back and he's begun treatment. There's a T-Shirt fundraiser to help with his medical treatments. Motion: to send \$250 to his cause. Dept funds

**M/S/P** Matthew Ludwig Dan Wuori, \$806.00 for 2 t-shirts for each member to come from department funds, pending trustee approval.

**M/S/P** Matthew Ludwig, Dan Wuori to purchase 8 marching polo shirts at \$60.00 each for \$500.00 to come from department funds.

**M/S/P** Matt Ludwig, Dan Wuori to donate \$250.00 to support Mike LaMere of Winsted Fire, to come from department funds.

**Car 3:**

June 6-7, there are 3 seats at Cornwall for train farm medic, see one of the chiefs if interested.

Equipment, 40 has been repaired, if there is anything that needs to be repaired, see Steven or mechanic.

**Car 4:**

ID tags, see Justin if you don't have one.

**Car 5:**

Fund Raising – possible ideas, more fried dough, movie night, see Amanda, Mike or Todd if you have ideas.

**Car 6:**

No Report

**Car 7:**

No Report

**EMS Captain:**

AED's have arrived  
May 20, anyone who needs credits, starts at 6:30

**Public Relations:**

No Report

**Fire Marshall:**

No Report

**Mechanics:**

No Report

## **Cadets:**

Any information about June fire school?

## **LCD:**

### **Committee Reports:**

- **House Committee:**

Chili will be served at the May meeting.

M/S/P Steven Hutchins, Justin Zarzycki to spend \$75.00 to replace the chili.

- **Fund Raising:**

Had a meeting on March 31 with ideas, looking at promo ideas for fire safety and PR events.

Looking at a 'public' store for merch, and also a 'firefighter' store.

Next meeting will be in May. Date to be announced.

Thanks to everyone who helped out at the Fried Dough sale. Sold 108 in 90 minutes.

- **Insurance Committee**

No Report

- **Building Committee**

First pour of concrete 30 yards for the footings. Moving along. Will be pouring again later this week. Hope to get most of the steel up by Memorial Day.

- **Anniversary Committee**

Will start meeting again in May. If you have ideas, see Steven.

- **Truck Committee**

Meeting with a lot of vendors, meeting with MidWest on April 7, 2026 on Zoom. Hope to have a proposal by end of May. Budget of 1.2 million or below. Moving quickly.

- **By-Law Committee**

Meeting of April 20 or 24, let Ted know of availability if you're on the committee.

## **Correspondence:**

Aug. 15, 2026, East Hartland parade

Torrington Golf Classic

Aug. 1, 2026 parade Thomaston, CT

**Old Business:**

2 membership applications to vote on.

Eric Sokolow– Yes

Wanda Houghtaling – Yes

Sept. 19, 2026 second annual Litchfield county cancer screening, may be asking for funding from various departments. There is a bill going through to get state funding for screenings. Paid departments get screened, but volunteer departments do not.

**New Business:**

Richard Byrne– Friday night on the green, July 3, 2026, done by Historical Society, looking for help with parade getting people across the street.

Memorial Day – Ending at the fire house as usual

Dan Wuori moved to Veteran membership.

A while ago we received grant money from AKC fund \$50,000.00 to go towards new building. The AKC fund requested that we move that money from our account to the Town account to help cover the overage. Those funds were going to be used towards kitchen items, and those items are included in the total cost of the building.

**M/S/P** Matthew Ludwig, John DeShazo to move the \$50,000.00 given to us from the AKC Fund from our department funds to the town new fire house account.

Ken questioned whether we will have final say as to exactly what equipment we will be getting. Yes, we do.

Application for new cadet member, Brennden Desrosiers. Welcome. Does not need a department vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Judy Ludwig

NVFD Secretary