

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2026

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

There were 27 members present.

Secretary's Report

M/S/P Todd Miller, John DeShazo to accept the Minutes of April 6, 2026.

Treasurer's Report

Tabled until next month.

Officers' Reports:

Chief's Report:

Please remember to fuel up trucks after using them. We will do special sections of training nights to go over how to use the tank at DPW.

May 9th is the live burn that we have been talking about for a while now. Please attend no matter what your training level. Jobs for everyone! That being said we need a motion not to exceed \$100 for refreshments.

M/S/P Matthew Ludwig, John DeShazo for \$100.00 for food for May 9, 2026, training event, to come from department funds.

Memorial Day is this month. The parade, open house, and race standby are virtually the same as last year. We will not be able to park the trucks at the green until after the race has started. It will be a "down and back" race beginning and ending at the green, due to the bridge construction. Matt will have a motion for open house monies. The sign-up sheets are up at the station. Please stop in to sign up, 20 Shepard Rd

This training year we are going to concentrate on Brush Fires, Extrication, and Pump Ops. Car 3 will be the trainer.

Now that the radios have been reprogrammed to be a heck of a lot more user friendly, we will have a Comms. SOP to present at the June meeting.

May 28th is the North Canaan pool fill. 1 Tanker and 1 Engine requested. Be at their HQ by 1800.

June meeting the Norfolk EDC is going to stop in and introduce themselves.

Put your thinking caps on for Weekend in Norfolk.

If you are home, or out, or napping and you are available please respond to emergencies. We have had some calls as of late when we really could have used help.

Sheffield Ma will now be calling us to every fire as their RIT team. Also 3rd alarm is an additional Engine.

Car 2:

Polo shirts are here and handed out. Everyone is set for Memorial Day and other events we need to look dapper at. Remember Kaki colored pants, no shorts, & flat black shoes. The T-Shirts should be in later this week

Road race prep underway. Need all hands on deck for Memorial Day. 7a at the FD. Done just after 2pm

Saturday, May 23rd, 11am for the station cleanup and truck washing

Motion for \$700 for open house refreshments and supplies. Helium becoming expensive. Looking at alternatives for handouts. Fire hats, other items.

M/S/P Matthew Ludwig, John DeShazo for \$700.00 for refreshments and supplies for Memorial Day activities, to come from department funds, pending Trustee approval.

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

Winchester UTV will assist with the race.

Radios were reprogrammed with new scan list and channel assignment. Much more user friendly now.

Yellow cribbing from Winsted is now on E30

Applied for the NVFC State Farm grant for \$10k for 10 pagers and 17 Red Jackets. Should hear something by August.

Met with CTS regarding 800 coverage along the towns that rt44 connects. Looking to compile a list of dead spots for mobiles and portables to make the case to enhance additional coverage. list needs to be portable and mobile specific. (Where it bonks, date and time, mobile or portable or both).

Working with Pittsfield and CTS to resolve radio transmissions. Base station was retuned and antenna cable was replaced. Now works on 800 with low reception but better than it was

iPad upgrades: cannot update the iOS due to storage capacity of 32g. Originally bought in May 2021, iPad 8th generation. T-Mobile will upgrade us to the 2025 iPad 11th generation A16 5G 128GB device for \$199.99 each on our government account. (Normal pricing \$499.99) Our monthly subscription cost per unit would also drop from \$23.94 to \$19.75.

Costs:

\$199.99ea for iPads (x6 \$1,199.94)

\$16ea for new cases (x6 \$96.00)

Subscription Savings \$4.19ea (x6 \$25.14/month, \$301.68/yr)

Trade in of our current 6 units: \$460

M/S/P Matthew Ludwig, John DeShazo to trade back 6 old iPads with only 32gig and upgrade to 6 new iPads with 128gig at a cost of \$200.00 each. T-Mobile will pay us a total of \$400.00 for return of old iPads. Cost of \$1200.00 to come from Town Funds contract items.

FireTek now has preplans. Upper right side of the screen by the incident nature. Working with app designer on bulk uploading the 300+ preplans we have.

Attended a training on overdoses in CT. We Received 5 leave behind kits that include test strips for users to check for opioids and Xylazine. Note: In addition to Opioid overdoses, be on the lookout for Xylazine overdoses (a veterinary sedative).(street names: Tranq, zombie drug, Sleep-Cut, Horse Tranquilizer). Can be mixed with heroin/Fentanyl and symptoms mirror opioid overdoses, but Narcan will not work to revive. Still administer it though and maintain the airway. Main indicator is necrotic wounds and ulcers that don't need to be near the injection site.

Department Events & Trainings with dates and times are posted on FireTek. RSVP for head counts

Car 3:

Repair company will be coming tomorrow to work of AC on E-40, will also be looking at vacuum on all trucks

Car 4:

No Report

Car 5:

No Report

Car 6:

No Report

Car 7:

Need more personalized training for truck operations and pump operations, a veteran member will work with 1 or 2 new members to learn operations. Will be scheduled on members availability. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the firehouse for those who want to learn and those who want to teach. See Ted if you have any questions.

EMS Captain:

Orthopedic Injuries: May 12 6pm. Online.

Just sent a separate email with details for this class

Bicycle and Motorcycle Injuries. Also Tuesday May 12, 7 pm at Bantam Fire Company. I forwarded the information for this in a separate email also.

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, rescheduled for June 8, 6:30 at NVFD HQ

Public Relations:

No Report

Fire Marshal:

No Report

Mechanics:

Siren on brush truck has been repaired.

Cadets:

No Report

LCD:

No Report

Committee Reports:

- **House Committee:**

Thanks to Theresa and Todd for providing chili for dinner tonight.

- **Fund Raising:**

Two online stores from Stadium Systems, one for members only with an access code for members, and one for the public. Also, a QR code will be available for people to scan in. Member's items can be delivered directly to firehouse or shipped to home. All public orders will be shipped to their home. Stadium Systems will send quarterly profits to NVFD for sales.

M/S/P Amanda Ingles, John DeShazo to spend up to \$600.00 for PR merch to hand out at public events, ie: Friday Night on the Green, Memorial Day, etc. to come from department funds, pending Trustee approval.

Stop and Shop in Canaan has reusable shopping bags, can purchase a community bag, all proceeds will go to the NVFD. We get \$1.00 for every bag sold in May.

- **Insurance Committee**

No Report

- **Building Committee**

Coming along. Electrical conduits are being put in. Hope to see steel rising by Memorial Day.

- **Anniversary Committee**

Silent Auction date is Nov.21, the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Everyone is asked to talk to vendors they frequent and ask for donations.

- **Truck Committee**

A video presentation was given for the purchase of a new truck to replace E30, and it will be called E60, "The Shepard Road Express".

M/S/P Todd Miller, John DeShazo to approve the design specification's presented by the truck committee to go out to bid with those specs.

Discussion as to why a side mount pump panel, it makes the truck shorter than a top mount panel, and members do not have to climb up and down several steps, several times during a call, to get to the panel. This is due to the increased exhaust equipment under the floor which is raising the panel.

Thanks to the Truck Committee for all their hard work.

- **By-Law Committee**

Will talk to Trustee's after the meeting.

Correspondence:

Tunxis hose parade, will be posted at firehouse.

Thank you from Mike Lemere who we donated to.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

School evacuation drill will be June 15, need assistance with moving students to day care.

New generator is included in the building plans.

Adjourn at 8:08 pm

Judy Ludwig
NVFD Secretary