

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2026

President Martyn Banks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

President Martyn Banks asked for a moment of silence for past deceased members.

There were 26 members present.

Representative, Josh, from ATT/First Net provided pizza for dinner and spoke briefly about First Net coverage.

Secretary's Report

M/S/P John DeShazo, Mike Listorti to accept the Minutes of August 3, 2026.

Jon Barbagallo introduced Nick, a senior at CCSU with a degree in construction management. He is doing a capstone project using our new firehouse as his project.

Treasurer's Report

We are at 30% of the Town Budget

M/S/P John DeShazo, Justin Zarzycki to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Officers' Reports:

Chief's Report:

M/S/P Justin Zarzycki, Matt Ludwig to spend up to \$2300.00 to cover the cost of the dinner to come from department funds, pending Trustee approval.

M/S/P Richard Byrne, John DeShazo, not to exceed \$540.00 for awards to come from department funds, pending Trustee approval.

M/S/P Brian Hutchins, Karl Janak sign a contract with Infinity Hall to host the Grantville Dog concert, Feb. 13, 2027, to hold concert at Infinity Hall, we need to sell at least \$1500.00 in tickets, cost of tickets would be \$25.00. All members would need to sell/purchase tickets. There are about 300 seats.

M/S/P Judy Ludwig, Justin Zarzycki use the annual appeal letter to kick-off a capital campaign project fund for the new firehouse. Do a direct mail instead of a postal patron mail which is what we have done in the past. Goulet will print the letter. Brian will come back next month with financial figures.

Thank you to everyone who helped to plan or attended the 9/11 memorial ceremony. We have received a lot of positive feedback.

The Annual Dinner/ Banquet is scheduled for October 3rd starting at 6pm (1800) at the Canaan VFW. Signup sheet is up and invitations will be out with these minutes. I would like to make a motion not to exceed \$2300 for food and tips (with trustee approval) out of Department Funds.

Anyone who has “gag” awards please contact C1. For the real awards I would like to make a motion not to exceed \$540 (with trustee approval)

The Grantville Dogs concert is scheduled for February 13th, 2027. We need approval to take part in this event. Also, we need a decision on how we want to sell the tickets, traditional or electronic. If we pick digital, we will be using Infinity’s system for which there is a charge.

For the appeal letter this year I would like to do something a little different. I would like to do a letter geared towards kicking off our Capital Campaign for the new station. And to also do a direct mailer instead of the Postal Patron option we have done in years past. The cost will be more, and I will have the cost for the October meeting.

The siren is now out of service until the new station is ready for it to be installed. Maybe Christmas?

This month and next is driver/operator training. All hands will be needed.

Just a reminder that every member of our department plays a key role. We all contribute in diverse ways, and I want to make sure that everyone feels valued. WE ARE ALL PART OF THE SAME TEAM. If you feel underappreciated or if anything happens to make you feel not valued, please contact me anytime. Or the other chiefs, or the president.

Car 2:

M/S/P Matt Ludwig Steven Hutchins to spend up to \$2800.00 to come from town funds to purchase 2 4-packs (8 total) house bombs.

Good work by everyone at the barn fire. Apparatus parking, tanker blitz, stretching hose, protecting the exposure, getting the fill site established, working with mutual aid, & refreshments for the crews. Unfortunate the outcome but nobody was hurt.

Tabled from last month: Stat-X First Responder, no batteries. 20sec discharge, 800cuft coverage (100sqft). 1 case with 4 units: \$1403 ea. +shipping. Motion to buy 2 sets, 8 grenades for \$2806. Town funds. Replacement equipment line

DEEP VFC Grant has been submitted

Renewed the depts SAM and UEI numbers with the federal government. It’s an annual renewal now. No charge, just online updating.

Submitted the grant application for the five sets of ricochet wildland turnout gear

Received from the generosity of the Columbia CT FD: 900' yellow jacketed 4", 300' blue stripe 1.75", 200' Red stripe 1.75", (4) 10' 1.75" pony lengths. 11years old, tested last year. We now have rack hose to swap out with when lines get dirty and need to be cleaned. Thank you letter sent

After stabilizing training the other day, we were short J-Hook clusters. They were ordered and now with the rescue tools on S20 & E40. Every strut now has a cluster to go with it, located in the green strap bag. Also, short J-Hook clusters on 5' chains for wrapping axles, trees for tie backs, etc. all grade 70

HEN nozzle recall all set. New shut off with back pressure fitting integrated within to prevent floppy hose. On E40 front bumper line.

State Farm grant jackets have partially arrived. Once they are all in, they have requested a photo op with everyone wearing their jackets along with their leaders and our state reps. Date/Time TBD.

All the SCBA batteries have been changed.

Trainings and Events are all in FireTek for easy access to see what's happening and RSVP'ing.

Car 3:

E90 is getting repaired, \$15,000.00 cost. Turnaround time 2-3 weeks.

Squad 20 exhaust work is being done.

Pump evaluation drill next two weeks.

If you find a problem with a vehicle, please let an officer know.

Car 4:

Hard suction, hose line drill in next two weeks. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Car 5:

No Report

Car 6:

No Report

Car 7:

No Report

EMS Captain:

First Responder renewal is up and will be sent in before the deadline. Joint training with NLCA on Oct. 12. Suzanne Hinman is coordinating.

Public Relations:

Great ceremony for 9-11, video will be posted on our social media.

Cancer initiative coming up.

Sept. 27, annual Tunnels to Tower, Jon and daughters will be running.

EMD trailer is out of service. Much needed repairs are being done. Will be a few more weeks.

Fire Marshall:

Please, when securing electrical power, if possible, to turn off the main power switch and let the Fire Marshall know.

Oct. 7, 2027, is Fire Prevention week at Botelle School. Lithium battery safety will be the focus this year. Need a fire truck to go up. 10:00 am at Hall of Flags. Show up for assistance and support.

New building official, working on a multitude of projects with him.

Mechanics:

E-40 had no water, but it was fixed, free of charge.

Cadets:

No Report

LCD:

No Report

Committee Reports:

- **House Committee:**

No Report

- **Fund Raising:**

Norbrook Farmers Market, selling items on Wednesday, third Mon of each month. Online store is up and running.

M/S/P Amada Ingles, Matt Ludwig, for \$600.00 for breast cancer shirts, to come from department funds, pending Trustee approval.

We will look into doing a boot drive funds to go toward capital campaign. Steven will look into getting approval to do it at the construction site on Rte. 44.

- **Insurance Committee**

No Report

- **Building Committee**

Still expect to be in the new building by the middle of January and then the current old building will come down. We can use the old building for training until it is destroyed.

- **Anniversary Committee**

Need to schedule a meeting. Everyone needs to get items to auction. Silent Auction is Nov. 21, 2026, at Infinity Hall and will include Karaoke.

- **Truck Committee**

Town has signed the contract for the new E-60. There will be a meeting later this month to finalize plans.

- **By-Law Committee**

No Report

Correspondence:

Thank you from two scholarship recipients.

Donation from David Leffell, Md.

Donation from Adair & Antonio Lost Ruby Farm, homeowners of barn fire.

Old Business:

3 applications for new members, Sarah, Logan, Sam, voted into membership.

New Business:

Looking for assistance for Ribbon Cutting ceremony, Mike Listorti, Judy Ludwig volunteered to head the committee.

M/S/P Brian Hutchins John DeShazo to donate \$400.00 to Norfolk Ambulance for Golf Tournament to come from department funds.

New application for membership John Parenteau as active interior.

Martyn is looking for a volunteer for the City Meadow committee, Ted Hinman volunteered.

M/S/P Julie Green, Gary Bottum to donate \$250.00 to Go Fund Me for Zach Marcus to come from department funds.

Judy Ludwig
NVFD Secretary