

Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2009

President Rowland Denny called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

30 Members present

**Secretary's Report**

**M/S/P** to accept minutes of March 2, 2009.

**Treasurer's Report**

**M/S/P** to accept the Treasurer's report. Department received donations from various sources.

**M/S/P** to make addition to adjenda to allow representatives from generator company to make a presentation to the department.

Representatives from a generator company presented information about new generator for firehouse. Looking at project to replace current ancient generator. Need electrical work done to upgrade panels. Funding to replace just the generator has been requested from the town in the amount of approx. \$5700. Money in building maintenance account will cover additional electrical costs.

**LCD**

Working on the CAD, town of Norfolk is done. Dispatchers have everything on computer, no longer using cards. Making proposal to New Milford to dispatch their police, fire and ambulance, would add additional dispatchers and double the LCD call volume. Budget is here, if anyone would like to see it.

**Chief's Report:**

1. The Chief spoke with the Seagrave we have obtained a copy of the dash layout. The lettering design is still pending. The Cab and Body are out of the weld shop and the cab should be in the body shop soon. A request for pictures was made last week I will forward them as soon as we get them.
2. During a pumping practice E30 was not holding a draft properly. It was sent for repair. The front suction had a leak in the intake cap around the threads. The

Front intake butterfly valve is also corroded inside and out. A replacement valve has been ordered it is expected to take twenty weeks before delivery.

3. Jim and I attended the BOF meeting on 3/24. No direct questions were asked of us during the meeting. However some concession were made prior to the meeting after reviewing our capitol request with the 1<sup>st</sup> selectmen office the cost of the lease for the Seagrave and the replacement generator remained as expenditures. The generator project has been planned by and can be completed with donated time of our member John Curtiss. The Seagrave is in capitol for now may become a line item eventually and I felt the Gear racks can be addressed in the future once apparatus, equipment and storage are addressed in the station. As for the rescue jacks I felt they could wait as well until we the Seagrave is in service and we know we have a place to carry them. As of today our budget request remains intact. There is a lot of discussion on the increased cost of \$525,000 over last year even when the Selectmen's request came in 2% less than last year. The BOF is working on a plan to reduce this with positive fund balance and additional cuts. Two items were mentioned removing the resident trooper program and broad reduction of all budgets.
4. The town garage is in need of a flammable storage cabinet. The one here is not being used to store gasoline any longer and the quantities of flammable liquids is so minimal that if there is no objection I would like to offer it to them? This will help free up some space in the bays.

**M/S/P** to give the flammable storage cabinet to the town garage.

5. The Doolittle Lake Company has requested an agreement be signed for installing the dry hydrant at Benedict pond. Where this has been agreed to prior to getting funding from DEP this latest "agreement" has made the town and us liable for installation, maintance and cost of the hydrant, as well as puts a prevision to remove it with 180 days notice. I have not agreed to these terms and it is in review with the Selectmen's office.
6. When the RIT pack was ordered for the 4.5 Scott Packs it came with a wire frame for Scott's RIT bag. Since we utilize a different bag the wire frame was not needed. We cannot return it because it is part of the kit and is not a separate part. I would like to offer it to New Hartford fire department since they utilize the full kit.
7. I was asked by the Selectmen to investigate the sale of E60 to see if we can obtain funds for it. I have contacted apparatus sales most are not interested due to the age of E60. One's that would assist us with the sale will do it for a consignment of 10% to 65% of the net value. In addition we have to maintain it in posted condition until sale. I also attempted to see if the E60 was of any interest to an OREN enthusiast group. I have had no response. The most promising option has been International Fire Relief Mission a 501c(3) organization with the help of supporters donates and transports equipment to 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries. This group of "firefighters helping firefighters" handles the logistic of the donation. In speaking with the President of IFRM they have identified the Island of Roatan as a possible recipient based on the need of fire protection in this country. I have even looked at EBay, which is more complicated cost for posting a vehicle,

needs to be a town account and if it does not sell we still have it. I need a decision from the department as to which option to recommend to the town.

**M/S/P** for chief to go back to the Board of Selectman and indicate that the NVFD would like to donate E60 to the IFRM for use in a third world country. If the town wishes to sell it, they will have to make those arrangements and maintain the truck.

8. The volunteer Fire Assistance grant is available again through DEP matching \$2,500. Daryl was planning to ask of partial funding for an air pack. Our cost would be \$2,900. The Purchase of dry hydrant program for 2009 funds has been stopped.
9. The cost sharing for FFI training program has been stopped by the state fire academy.
10. The Music Shed will not have a sprinkler system or fire alarm; it is under construction for repairs from the water damage last year. They flow tested the hydrant in the lot and it works.
11. Infinity Hall is moving along, planned opening of May 1; Chief wants to do a walk through prior to opening. A Knox box has been installed in the lower level by the back door.

### **Warden's Report:**

Problems with chainsaws, would like to purchase a sharpening guide, Rowland offered his. Also would like a new vise and one more spare chain, total would be under \$150.00.

**M/S/P** to spend under \$150.00 to purchase a sharpening guide, a new vise and a spare chain.

### **Fire Police:**

Bill Millard attend a meeting with state Fire Police, mentioned need for signage, must be put up correctly, we currently use a Class 3 vest, going to a Class 3 vest, white hats we use are possible going to be changed to lime green (white hats meets state statue), any firefighter who is not interior should be wearing the vest, would be willing to come to Norfolk for refresher for current Fire Police at no cost except for instructor. Bill will be conducting an inventory of equipment. Fire Police will help him.

### **Explorers:**

Need for hats for marching, want to hold a car wash on Sat. April 25

### **Training:**

April 11 & 18 (Sat) 10-11 – uniform fitting  
April 13 – 6:00 NVFD drill – Rescue 42 demo

April 14 – Specialty Minerals Tour – 7:00 pm (Canaan)  
April 16 – HVRHS (DEP forestry) - 7:00 pm  
April 21, 22, 23 – CPR/AED Training at National Iron Bank – see Sandy Evans  
April 22 – NVFD Officers meeting – 7:00 pm  
April 25 – Richard Byrne Dinner – Botelle 6:00 pm  
April 26 – Sunday - Sharon live burn – 9:00 am  
April 27 – 7:00 pm NVFD drill  
April 27 – 7:30 Budget Hearing – Botelle  
Two structures have been offered to the NVFD for training for live burns, Chief will check into this

### **Mechanic's Report:**

No report

### **Correspondence:**

Letter of thanks with check  
Received a \$1,000.00 grant  
Letter of thanks from family of Phil Byrne  
Letter from Anne Byrne  
Thank you letter from Nina Rltzin  
Golf tournament in Torrington on June 1

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Building Committee:**

Hopefully bids will be going out in the next couple of weeks

- **Insurance Committee:**

No report

- **House Committee:**

No report

- **ATV Committee:**

No report, need more funds to purchase and then space is needed to house it

### **Old Business:**

Road Race – Ron will get list of last year's entrants to Matt Ludwig, he will email forms to everyone. Ron will be in charge and check into costs and signs.

Trip to Mohegan Casino is May 3<sup>rd</sup>; 9:00 there are still about 12 seats available. See Jody. Cost is \$30.00 per person.

**New Business:**

What to do with the Studebaker? Steven would like to look into what to do it.

Application for membership for Nicholas Currier, lives in East Canaan, wants to be Active A. Membership committee will look into it. Chief Byrne will contact Fire Chief of North Canaan.

M/S/P to adjourn at 9:02 pm

Judy Ludwig  
Secretary