

Select Board Meeting Agenda
Nobleboro Town Office Meeting Room
June 5, 2024 @ 6:00pm Special Open Town Meeting
Selectboard Meeting Immediately Following

Attendance: Jon Chadwick - Select Board Kevin Rawley – Fire Chief
Richard Powell – Select Board Nathaniel House - Broadband
Robyn Clark – Treasurer Pamela Hibbs - Resident
Emerald Friend – Town Clerk Pamela Miller - Resident
Susan Pinnetti-Isabel - Moderator Isabel Macomber - Resident

OPEN MEETING: Meeting started immediately after Special Open Town Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- P Miller asked about the current evaluation and, if it is assessed at fair market value, how does KRT not need to get inside the home.
- R Powell explained they are just going into the homes and looking around for any upgrades.
- R Powell explained residents can schedule an appointment with the evaluator.
- J Chadwick explained once KRT is finished and they submit the information to the town then the residents will be able to look over the info and contest, if necessary.
- Select Board explained having the re-evaluation does not mean taxes will automatically raise.

MINUTES: Approve 05/22/2024 Minutes

- J Chadwick made a motion to approve the 5/22/24 Minutes
- R Powell 2nd the motion
- The vote was unanimous.

SCHOOL & TOWN WARRANTS:

1. School Payroll Warrant	# 48	\$ 107,849.32
2. School AP Warrant	# 49	\$ 54,545.10
3. Town Payroll Warrant	# 50	\$ 19,315.00
4. Town AP Warrant	# 51	<u>\$ 74,685.46</u>
		\$ 256,394.88

- R Powell made a motion to approve the warrants as written above
- J Chadwick 2nd the motion
- The vote was unanimous.

SIGN WARRANTS: 43-46

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Kevin Rawley-NB Fire Chief**
 - Info on OSHA Compliance & SHAPE Program
- See information below

OLD BUSINESS:

- **2024 Municipal Officer List**
 - Municipal Officer List was tabled until 6/18 meeting
- **George Dow & Francis Key Scholarships**
 - Scholarships were discussed in a meeting prior to Selectboard meeting
- **Duck Puddle Road Culvert Grant**
 - R Powell explained that R Spear spoke to Julia at the Waldoboro Town Office and they both agreed that the Road Commissioner's from Nobleboro get together and look over the culvert on Duck Puddle Rd to see if it was going to be good for this grant or if it would need an engineer.
 - Matt Benner Nobleboro Rd Commissioner and John Dagler Waldoboro Rd Commissioner will get together and look at the culvert.
- **Nobleboro Broadband Committee-Nate House**
 - N House explained that there is a grant from Consolidated Communications
 - North Nobleboro would be included in this grant if the select board agreed to the broadband putting in for the grant.
 - Letter is attached below
 - Nate explained that there is no guarantee that Nobleboro will get the grant but if we did then the grant will be matched. \$50,000 would get Nobleboro \$500,000
 - Consolidated Communications Grant closes June 21st. The letter would need to be signed to show the commitment of the \$50,000 Nobleboro would contribute.
 - Nov 1st would be the 1st payment due.
 - R Powell asked that the amounts for Nobleboro be put into the letter.
 - Nate will fix the letter and bring it back to the 6/18/24 meeting.
- **Fireproof Vault (Updates if any)**
 - No updates currently.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm

Minutes Transcribed by Emerald Friend, Town Clerk

**SPECIAL OPEN TOWN MEETING
JUNE 5, 2024
NOBLEBORO MEETING ROOM**

Attendance: Jon Chadwick - Select Board	Kevin Rawley – Fire Chief
Richard Powell – Select Board	Nathaniel House - Broadband
Robyn Clark – Treasurer	Pamela Hibbs - Resident
Emerald Friend – Town Clerk	Pamela Miller - Resident
Susan Pinnetti-Isabel - Moderator	Isabel Macomber - Resident

To Stanley Waltz, Constable, in the Town of Nobleboro, County of Lincoln, State of Maine.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Nobleboro, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the meeting room of the Town office at 6:00 pm on the evening of Wednesday, the 5th day of June A.D. 2024 to act on the following articles to wit:

Article 1 To choose, by written ballot, a moderator to preside at said meeting.

- Motion was made to have Susan Pinnetti-Isabel as moderator
- 3 written votes for Susan Pinnetti-Isabel were counted and so she was elected

Article 2 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the annual budget amount in each category of the 2024 Annual budget during the period of January 1, 2025, to the 2025 annual town meeting.

- Pamela Miller made a motion for Article #2 as written
- Nathaniel House 2nd the motion
- Passed as written

A true copy of the warrant,

ATTEST:

Town Clerk of Nobleboro
Emerald Friend

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

_____ Richard Spear, Chair
_____ Richard Powell, Selectman
_____ Jon Chadwick, Selectman

Nobleboro Fire & Rescue Updates for Selectman & Strategic Planning



2024 -2026

1. OSHA & SHAPE PLAN

- What is SHAPE?
- OSHA and Plan States Difference.
- NFPA and OSHA

2. OPERATIONAL STATUS PLAN

- Engine 3 Replacement Plan
- Turnout Gear Renewal Plan
- Operational Standards Training Plan
- Emergency Medicine Plan

3. DAMARISCOTTA MILLS STATION MAINTENANCE PLAN

- The Conex Container
- Mills Landscaping
- *CID* Corner Work

4. GLENDON STATION MAINTENANCE PLAN

- Bay Lighting

OSHA & SHAPE PLAN

What is SHAPE?

In short: An award that exempts us from state inspections for a period tied to the award.

Maine Department of Labors' "SafetyWorks!" has a program aptly titled Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE). By participating, we adhere to all Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor standards. By achieving the SHAPE award, we are acknowledged as an exemplary and safe employer. Additionally and also importantly, SHAPE awards also make us exempt from programmed Department of Labor/ Bureau of Labor inspections for the period in which the award is valid.

I am currently working alongside Lynn Martin to help us get the SHAPE award again this year. There is a lot of ground to cover and we are working tirelessly to ensure the safety of our firefighter personnel.

OSHA State vs Plan State

In short: We adhere to federal regulations and have OSH approved state specific regulations.

OSHA is a federal agency, states that adhere only to OSHA regulations are OSHA States. Plan States follow the federal regulations and have OSHA approved, state based regulations. Maine is one such state. No matter what, OSHA has the final say in state based regulations.

NFPA and OSHA

In short: OSHA is adopting NFPA Guidelines to OSHA docket 1910.156, which will make personnel, equipment, apparatus and training costs go up due to related regulations. The consensus amongst fire chiefs is that while we wholly support OSHA in protecting our firefighters, we need more time to implement the changes they are citing.

OSHA has been studying fire service related injuries and fatalities for over a decade. The data they presented in their 600+ page report shows that we are losing a hundred or more firefighters each year. In order to improve the health and safety of firefighters, OSHA has created a plan to add regulations based on 22 NFPA standards and 1 ANSI standard. As well, 14 other NFPA standards have not been incorporated by name, rather by verbiage of proposed regulations. It is important to understand how these changes will affect all aspects of not only the fire service at large, but also our community in the near future. OSHA has a comment period for these changes ending on June 24th. It is recommended by myself, the Lincoln County Fire Chiefs Association, the Maine Fire Chiefs Association, the National Volunteer Fire Committee and the International Association of Fire Firefighters that all affected individuals including town and

county representatives provide feedback to OSHA on this matter. No matter what, these regulations will occur in some form, change is coming.

Below are the 22 NFPA Standards being formatted into OSHA 1910.156 Fire Brigades. Additionally are the 1 ANSI standard and 14 referenced NFPA standards in the docket.

1. NFPA 1001, Standard for Structural Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications
2. NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications
3. NFPA 1005, Standard Qualifications for Marine Firefighting for Land-Based Firefighters
4. NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications
5. NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications
6. NFPA 1081, Standard for Facility Fire Brigade Member Professional Qualifications
7. NFPA 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection
8. NFPA 1407, Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews
9. NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Dept's
10. NFPA 1910, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishment, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels
11. NFPA 1951, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents
12. NFPA 1952, Standard on Surface Water Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment
13. NFPA 1953, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Contaminated Water Diving
14. NFPA 1971, Standard Protective Ensembles Structural & Proximal Firefighter
15. NFPA 1977, Standard Protective Equipment, Wildland Firefighting & Urban Firefighting
16. NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services
17. NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)
18. NFPA 1984, Standards on Respirators for Wildland Fire-Fighting Operations and Wildland Urban Interface Operations
19. NFPA 1986, Standard Respiratory Protection Equipment Tactical & Technical Operations
20. NFPA 1987, Standard Combi Unit Respirator Systems Tactical Technical Operations
21. NFPA 1990, Standard for Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials and CBRN Operations
22. NFPA 1999, Standard Protective Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations

Below are the 14 NFPA and 1 ANSI standards referenced in docket 1910.156

1. NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers
2. NFPA 600, Standard on Facility Fire Brigades
3. NFPA 1201, Standard for Providing Fire and Emergency Services to the Public
4. NFPA 1451, Standard Fire & Emergency Service Vehicle Operations Training Program
5. NFPA 1500, Standard Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health & Wellness Program
6. NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications
7. NFPA 1561, Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety
8. NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program
9. NFPA 1660, Standard for Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
10. NFPA 1700, Guide for Structural Fire Fighting
11. NFPA 1710, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments

NFPA 1720, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments

NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Firefighting and Proximity Fire Fighting

NFPA 2500, Standard for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services

1. ANSI/ISEA 207, American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests

What does all this mean for Nobleboro? Here is a brief list of changes that these regulations would enforce within 2 years of OSHA's finalizing this docket:

- **Fire Station Compliance:** The station would need to be completely refurbished to meet compliance. Gear racks having their own separated room, break-away exhaust systems for the apparatus, both male and female showers, possibly a kitchenette. The Damariscotta Mills station on Bayview would be completely and utterly unusable in its current status.
- **Fire Apparatus:** Docket verbiage indicates Engine 1 and Engine 3 would only be in service until their first major repair to either pump or engine. At which point, they would be required to be removed from service indefinitely.
- **Fire Personnel:** Our firefighters would require even greater training regimens, which includes substantially increasing annual training hours, purchasing additional third party training and ultimately taking more time away from our firefighters already full plated schedules and lives.
- **Fire Officers:** Our Officers including myself would be nearly completely unqualified for our current positions with Captain John Hedrick being a possible exception. The training to meet these regulations would require even more time and effort from our officers already endlessly busy schedules.
- **Budget:** Windsor Fire, for reference, has sent a public comment to OSHA stating that they would need their current budget of \$68,100 (0.65% Town Budget) plus an additional \$700,000 for staffing and an additional \$600,000 for remodeling and construction of facilities mandated by the regulations. From my perusing, this does not include the increased budget for maintenance of station, staff and equipment/ apparatus.

OPERATIONAL STATUS PLAN

Engine 3: Summary

Recent repair notes and quotes show that Engine 3 is performing at a significantly reduced level. This, in addition to the upcoming OSHA/ NFPA adjustments means that as of 2026 Engine 3 will be nearing or past its usable lifespan. Further, only a select few of our Firefighters can drive a stick shift and as of CURRENT standards all fire apparatus must be automatic transmission. In short:

- Multiple repairs to ensure the Engine does not overheat during pumping.
- Firefighter Operators for Engine 3, a stick shift, are minimal.
- Current standards show all apparatus should/must be automatic transmission. Engine 3 was grandfathered into the rule as it was already purchased at the time of this adjustment.
- NFPA to OSHA regulation of 1910.156 adjustments indicate Engine 3 would be required to be taken out of service after experiencing any new pump, engine or other major repair work as of 2026.

Two of our previous vehicles have been permanently taken out of service and sold without replacement. These apparatus are Rescue 1 and our Forestry apparatus. Neither the Glendon Station (Route One) nor the Damariscotta Mills Station (Bayview) have room to fit replacements for those apparatus. However, those losses could be reconciled into one vehicle, essentially replacing 3 vehicles with 1 by purchasing a Utility style apparatus to function as a Rescue, Special Rescue and Forestry apparatus.

Why replace Rescue 1?

Currently under Maine EMS, we are struggling to meet our required inventory of emergency medical equipment. This is both from our current allocated budget for medical equipment as well as an apparatus to put them on. All Maine EMS mandated emergency equipment for a Non-Transport BLS service such as ourselves is required to be readily available by personnel for use in a medical emergency. Purchasing a Rescue vehicle to outfit with all the necessary equipment solves this issue entirely.

Why replace the Forestry?

We have responded mutual aid in recent memory to Waldoboro, Bristol and Jefferson for brush fires. We have had two brush fires just this year and plenty others in the past. Without a dedicated forestry vehicle to respond with our forestry gear is on both Engine 22 and Engine 3. Engine 3 again can only be operable by a couple staff members. Purchasing a replacement for the Forestry would allow for all forestry equipment to be stored solely on one apparatus that all operators can drive.

The Replacement:

John Hedrick and I have roamed around the state, inspecting other fire departments apparatus, as well as speaking with a representative from Sutphen to determine the best course of action for replacement. Islesboro and Friendship specifically have Utility vehicles that would fit this role to near perfection.

We are recommending a Ford F 550 or greater, extended cab. The apparatus can be fabricated by Dingee Machine Company, with an estimate of \$375,000 to \$400,000 cost if we purchase in the next year. This price is estimated to rise by 20% each year based on statistics I have gathered from Sutphen, Dingee, Friendship and Islesboro.

06/05/2024

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Andrew Butcher
President, Maine Connectivity
Authority PO Box 817
125 Forest Ave.
Portland, ME

04104 Dear Mr.

Butcher:

The town of Nobleboro (The "Town") is in full support of the application of Consolidated Communications for the Maine Connectivity Authority's Partnerships Enabling Middle Mile (PEMM) program.

Reliable internet is no longer a luxury but a necessity for connecting with friends, family, coworkers, and enabling technology that contributes to our everyday lives. Fiber internet can be twenty times faster than a standard residential internet connection. In a world where working and learning from home is essential, it's crucial to have a reliable internet connection.

Consolidated Communications will bring fiber based symmetrical service to all residents that at least have electric infrastructure in the area. It will allow those residents living in a rural area to be a part of the digital economy The Town believes that it is critical to its continued economic development and viability.

The infrastructure that Consolidated Communications provides is future-proof connectivity for the businesses and residents of these communities, easily able to deliver upwards of 2G of symmetric service to residents and scalable to 10G with no additional last mile network investment other than upgraded equipment. The town understands this will provide for both current and future needs and is very excited to bring this level of service to its citizens.

Thank you for considering what we believe to be a strong partnership and proposal. Sincerely,

Richard Spear - Chair

Jon Chadwick

Richard Powell Jr.