



MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – Tuesday, February 9th, 2021

ATTENDEES: Chairman Marc Komorsky
Commissioner Richard Sassi
Commissioner Stephen Piehler
EMS Admin Michael Benenati
Commissioner George Burns
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro
Chief Tim O'Connor
Secretary Bria Le

At 6:05 pm, Chairman Marc Komorsky called the LaGrange Board of Fire Commissioner meeting to order for Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 via Zoom and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Komorsky then welcomed everyone on the call.

MINUTES: 1/26/21 Regular Meeting

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Burns and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the 1/26/21 Regular Meeting. Burns – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: *(none)*

ROOM USE REQUESTS: *(none)*

REPORTS: *(by officers present)*

• **Treasurer –**

BANK STATEMENT: Treasurer Mark Pozniak reported that all of the bank statements have been provided to the Board and all of the accounts have been reconciled except the General Checking account that still has a couple of items remaining to be reconciled.

GRANT: Pozniak noted that the District had applied for a grant that would have paid 95% of the COVID costs and his understanding is that the grant was not approved. He said he would take those same expenses and submit them through a different FEMA grant. Chief O'Connor said he wasn't sure if the first grant is denied as the awards come in waves. Short discussion followed and Pozniak said he would wait until a final determination is made on the first grant submission before submitting the other one.

VFIS: Pozniak said that VFIS has contacted the District about a potential change in the funding amounts going forward. He said he spoke to the representative at VFIS and they are looking for some insight into the District's decisions about paying through the plan or purchasing annuities. He described the options and the increased cost difference between them. Discussion followed regarding the need to get further information about the actuarial tables and assumptions. Pozniak said he would report back to the Board on the matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pozniak said he had one personnel item for Executive Session.

BoFC Regular Meeting 2/9/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted remotely and open for public viewing and/or listening using the video conferencing platform Zoom, as per NYS Executive Order #202.1 (Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Related to the Disaster Emergency).



LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



- **Chief –**

VEHICLES: Chief Tim O'Connor said that Mike Hekle is online with the referendum on 97's replacement and that the snow chains on 47-73 need work. He reported that 47-71 was trailered to Long Island with a liquid spring issue and it came back today. He said the vehicle came back a lot sooner than expected. Short discussion followed regarding the cost of the tow and if it was covered by warranty.

O'Connor said that the Board had previously discussed all of the work that the mechanic used to do that is no longer being done. Discussion followed about how other departments are handling mechanic work and the need to address the issue.

SCBAS: The Chief informed the Board that the SCBA class was held and all of the District's SCBAs were hydro-tested, inspected, and maintained. He said that two needed repairs which would be done in the firehouse.

PERSONNEL: Chief O'Connor said that interviews would be held on Thursday and that one seat is currently held for us in Montour and two seats are available for us in Westchester. Short discussion followed regarding sending people to the academy for training.

COVID: The Chief said that he sent the Board the COVID hours and related costs. Short discussion followed regarding the funds spent this year. He said that he held an IMT meeting on Friday and discussed the six person. He said the numbers (in the area) are going down but the group isn't sure if they are truly going down or just in a lull. He said there is another meeting scheduled for the 19th to reevaluate.

SAFER GRANT: Chief O'Connor said he put together a power-point presentation regarding the SAFER grant and he will go over it later in the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: O'Connor said he had two personnel items for Executive Session.

- **EMS Administrator –**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: EMS Administrator Michael Benenati said that he had one item for Executive Session.

COVID: Benenati said that he received an email from Commissioner Piehler asking about COVID numbers. He reviewed the number of COVID positive cases the District has encountered and the number of suspected cases. Next he reviewed the length of call times over the past couple of months. Short discussion followed regarding COVID testing at the hospital.

- **Department –** *(no report)*

- **Union –** *(no report)*

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Repairs and Repair Requests** – Komorsky asked the Chief if the mold issue at Station 3 is being addressed and O'Connor said the vendor will notify him when he can begin the work. Komorsky noted that the washer/dryer has arrived at Company 2 and the Chief confirmed that the plumbing work has

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been done, the electrician is coming next week, and the flooring will be done on Thursday & Friday. Komorsky said that (Jeff) Kaiser is working on getting quotes for the kitchen cabinets at Station 2.

O'Connor asked if all of the Commissioners had done the workplace violence and sexual harassment training. Short discussion followed about sending out additional notices.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Radio Tower Lease from Sedgewick Road LLC** – Komorsky asked if everyone had had a chance to look at the lease extension. Short discussion followed regarding the radio tower.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to accept the radio tower lease with Sedgewick Road, LLC for the year 2021 (attached).

Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Komorsky reported that there are a lot of proposed building plans in the Town (of LaGrange) coming up in the spring and summer that could add about 1000 units. He described several of the proposed plans and said he spoke to the town councilmen about getting additional assistance for the fire district to help with the increased call volume. Discussion followed about getting assistance from the developers.

ABSTRACT: \$49,095.47

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to approve the abstract for the end of January/beginning of February of \$49,095.47. Burns – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(none)*

CHIEF'S REPORT: *(cont.)*

Chief O'Connor noted that the SAFER grant could dramatically impact the department and that the Board needs to know what it is and how it could affect the district. He presented a slideshow (attached) going over details of the grant and how lack of staffing affects the District's response ability. Discussion followed about meeting with NFPA standards. Komorsky requested for the Board to have an opportunity to review the information and come back with questions at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:41 pm, upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discussion one personnel item regarding a volunteer, four personnel items, one item pertaining to interviews, one item regarding an internet issue, and one item regarding a FEMA grant from Komorsky, one personnel item from Pozniak, two personnel items from O'Connor, and one personnel item from Benenati. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OPEN SESSION & PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM:

At 9:10 pm, the Board resumed Open Session.

Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Resolution of the LaGrange Fire District to Purchase a 2021 Ford F-350 XL (full resolution

BoFC Regular Meeting 2/9/21

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attached). Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:15, upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Burns – Aye, Piehler – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bria Le – District Secretary

Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 2/23/21

BoFC Regular Meeting 2/9/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted remotely and open for public viewing and/or listening using the video conferencing platform Zoom, as per NYS Executive Order #202.1 (Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Related to the Disaster Emergency).

SEDGEWICK ROAD LLC
2 Sedgewick Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
(845) 452-7715

February 1, 2021

LaGrange Fire District
504 Freedom Plains Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

Re: Lease Agreement

Dear Sirs:

The lease extension is coming to an end on March 31, 2021. I believe that you have paid rent in full until that date. We invite you to renew for another one year term.

For the next year term, commencing April 1, 2021 and end March 31, 2022, the new monthly rent shall be \$451.00 or \$5,412.00 annually. This is just a 2 ½ % increase which is required to keep up with the ever increasing taxes on the property. Please adjust your records accordingly so that the correct amount will be paid on April 1, 2021.

At the beginning of 2022, we will revisit your lease terms.

We trust that this will be acceptable but feel free to contact us if there are any questions.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Frank Redl
Member

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law as amended, that the resolution published herewith has been adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District in the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, on February 9, 2021. Such resolution was adopted subject to a permissive referendum set forth in Section 6-g, Subdivision 4 of the General Municipal Law as amended.

RESOLUTION OF THE LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT TO PURCHASE A 2021 FORD F-350 XL

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners, in the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, approve the purchase of a 2021 Ford F-350 XL with snowplow package (“vehicle”) and related equipment (“equipment”);

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the Chief of the LaGrange Fire District, approve the purchase of the 2021 Ford F-350 XL with snow plow package and related and transferred equipment;

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the Chief of the LaGrange Fire District, approve the purchase of a diesel transfer tank from Northern Tool;

WHEREAS, Van Bortel Ford, located at 71 Marsh Road, East Rochester, New York 14445, which is a Ford dealership within the region with a state contract;

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners approve the expenditure of up to Fifty-Five Thousand DOLLARS and Zero CENTS (\$55,000) from the Capital Reserve Fund for Apparatus Purchases, for the purchase of the 2021 Ford F-350 XL and other related equipment and contingencies;

WHEREAS, the determined period of probable usefulness of the truck is anticipated to be at least five (5) years, consistent with Section 11.00 (29) of the Local Finance Law,;

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners has and will comply with all requirements of the permissive referendum, as required by General Municipal Law, Section 6-g(7), and, upon this resolution being adopted, the same shall be published in full in the Poughkeepsie Journal together with a notice from the Fire District Secretary in the form provided by Section 175 of the Town Law as amended.; and

WHEREAS, Van Bortel Ford has agreed to supply a new 2021 Ford F-350 XL, and the installation of the related fire safety equipment and contingencies shall be performed as after

purchase service, as required by the LaGrange Fire District in its specifications, for no more than Fifty-Five Thousand DOLLARS and Zero CENTS (\$55,000).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, the resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted by an affirmative vote of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District in the Town of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York.

Dated: February 9, 2021

Bria Le,
LaGrange Fire District Secretary

VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	Due Date	2/9/2021
A-1 Automotive ✓	\$ 16.80	10285		Wiper blades for 47-1
Bottini Fuel	\$ 119.40	10271		Propane Delivery
Bottini Fuel	\$ 595.72	10274		Diesel Fuel Delivery
CryoWeld ✓	\$ 666.00	10286		Fire extinguishers test & refill
Dutchess County EMS Council ✓	\$ 75.00	10267		Membership Dues
Freihofer Ice & Springwater	\$ 108.00			Jan. water jug deliveries
Frontier Communications ✓	\$ 117.23	10287		Sta 1 local & long distance
Giant Lock Box LLC ✓	\$ 3,500.00			
HG Page & Sons	\$ 24.70	10268		Building Repair sump pump
HG Page & Sons	\$ 21.98	10275		Building Repair
Hopewell Fire Apparatus Service Co	\$ 507.00	10234		47-32 Repair
Hopewell Fire Apparatus Service Co	\$ 1,136.10	10238		47-55 Repair
Jackson Lewis P.C. ✓	\$ 10,791.00	10288		Professional Services for Dec. 2020
John A. Giaimo & Sons, Inc.	\$ 1,224.90	10277		Electrical Repairs - Sta. 3
John A. Giaimo & Sons, Inc.	\$ 573.00	10299		Sta. 2 electrical work
KoscoHeritage/HOP Energy ✓	\$ 1,367.70	10289		Fuel Oil deliveries Sta. 1 & Sta. 3
Manpower	\$ 860.59	10270		Office Work
Manpower	\$ 724.63	10280		Office work
Municipal Emergenct Services	\$ 1,091.40	9956		Matex Hose
Municipal Emergenct Services	\$ 195.84	10175		SCBA Test repair & mask repair
Municipal Emergenct Services	\$ 2,000.00			SCBA training class
Northeast Pest & Wildlife Control ✓	\$ 425.00	10290		Quarterly Pest Control services all 3 stations
NYCOMCO ✓	\$ 21.50	5042		Minitor 5 Battery
Premier Fire Apparatus - <i>Already pd 1/27/21</i>	\$ 70.46	10230		Oil Change for 47-1
Pyramid Films Corp ✓	\$ 20.00	10269		ASHI Instructor Renewal
Redemption Mechanical ✓	\$ 17,050.00	10284		Boiler/AC Service Proposal 2021
Royal Carting Service Co. ✓	\$ 488.95			Commercial Waste Service Jan 2021
ServPro ✓	\$ 825.28	10283		Disinfect Stations 1 & 2
Shelterpoint ✓	\$ 973.98	10291		Employee Vision Insurance - March 2021
Tompkins Cardmember Services ✓	\$ 3,228.83	10298		Jan 2021 credit card expenses
Wright Express Fleet Services	\$ 274.48	10292		Unleaded Gasoline purchases Jan 2021
TOTAL SUBMITTED	\$ 49,095.47		Date:	Commissioner Signatures:
<i>changes listed:</i>				
TOTAL APPROVED				
KEY:				
pre-paid				
Paid				

Staffing & the SAFER Grant

Staffing & the SAFER Grant

What is the SAFER Grant?

Why now?

What has changed in the last 10 years, 5 years, year, 6 months?

How?

How many personnel? How much \$\$\$?

SAFER

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response

- Application needs to be submitted on March 12th by 17:00
- Hiring Activity:
 - The Hiring Activity offers grants to support applications to hire new, additional firefighters (or to change the status of part-time or paid-on-call firefighters to full-time firefighters), rehire laid off firefighters, or to retain firefighters facing layoff.
- R&R Activity:
 - The R&R Activity offers grants to support applications to assist fire departments with the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters who are involved with or trained in the operations of firefighting and emergency response.

Each requires its own application

SAFER

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response

- There is no cost share or match or position cost limit
- There is no maximum award amount for awards
- Full funding for 3-years

SAFER

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response

- Eligible Costs
 - Salary and associated benefits (actual payroll expenses) for the positions funded under the SAFER Program grant are eligible. Costs are reimbursable if they are included as part of the standard package, available to all operational fir
 - Compensation for a firefighter's normal, contracted work schedule is reimbursable, but overtime costs are not eligible for reimbursement by the SAFER Program grant award (including overtime for holdovers, extra shifts, to attend training, etc.). Only costs for overtime that the fire department routinely pays as a part of the base salary or a firefighter's regularly scheduled and contracted shift hours, in order to comply with FLSA, are eligible.
- Salaries and benefits of firefighters hired with SAFER Program funding while they are engaged in initial recruit training are eligible fighter positions, and contractually obligated.

Why Now?

- The staffing problem is not new
- 10+ years ago there were enough volunteers to supplement a career staff
 - Actually, the career staff supplemented the volunteers
- Now there are (statistically) no volunteers
- Career staff should have been incrementally increased over the last 10+ years
- SAFER is being offered now

Several things have been brought to my attention over the last 6+ months

- A large brush fire that required a lot of mutual aid
 - Not all mutual aid was able to help
- A small garage fire that took place in and around EMS calls
- A plane crash where accountability was shown to be a problem
 - This was also a 2nd call in the district
- Multiple auto accidents where staffing was an issue
- Apparatus being left on the scene unattended
- A multiple vehicle car fire with exposures that highlighted a staffing issue with regard to paramedic staffing
- A reacquaintance with NFPA 1720 and studying our responses to calls

NFPA

- Are we required to comply?

NFPA

- In most cases, compliance with NFPA standards is voluntary. However, in some cases, federal or state Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) agencies have incorporated wording from NFPA standards into regulations. In these cases, complying with the standards is mandatory.

NFPA

- In most cases, compliance with NFPA standards is voluntary. However, in some cases, federal or state Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) agencies have incorporated wording from NFPA standards into regulations. In these cases, complying with the standards is mandatory.
- In New York State this regulation is enforced for firefighters and public employees by the DOL's Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH)

OSHA/PESH

- OSHA Regulation 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1910.156
 - Emergency Responder Preparedness Program Standard

OSHA/PESH

- OSHA Regulation 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1910.156
 - Emergency Responder Preparedness Program Standard
- 1910.156(e)
 - Establishment of Emergency Service(s) Capability

OSHA/PESH

- OSHA Regulation 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1910.156
 - Emergency Responder Preparedness Program Standard
- 1910.156(e)(1)
 - The Emergency Service Organization (ESO) shall conduct a community or facility vulnerability and risk assessment for its service area, for the purpose of establishing its standards of response and determining its ability to match the community or facility's risks with available resources.

OSHA/PESH

- OSHA Regulation 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1910.156
 - Emergency Responder Preparedness Program Standard
- 1910.156(e)(2)(ii)
 - When it is deemed necessary to coordinate resources on a regional level, the ESO shall establish a multi-agency coordination system to facilitate the coordination and support between other ESOs and jurisdictions.

OSHA/PESH

- OSHA Regulation 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 1910.156
 - Emergency Responder Preparedness Program Standard
- 1910.156(e)(3)
 - The ESO shall evaluate the resources needed, including personnel and equipment, for mitigation of emergency incidents identified in the community or facility vulnerability and risk assessment, and establish in writing the type(s) and level(s) of emergency service(s) it is capable of performing

OSHA/PESH & Referenced NFPA Standards

- NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program
- NFPA 1561, Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety
- NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program
- NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments
- **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 Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting
- NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services
- NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting

Regardless of whether NFPA standard compliance is voluntary or mandatory, fire and rescue departments must consider the impact of voluntary standards on private litigation.

A department may be liable for the negligent performance of their duties. Most state laws do not protect fire or rescue departments for gross negligence, even in states that protect rescue workers under an immunity statute.

Essentially, negligence involves the violation of a standard of care that results in injury or loss to some other individual or organization. In establishing the standard of care for rescue operations, the courts will frequently look to the voluntary standards issued by the NFPA and other organizations.

Standard

- Although voluntary in name, these standards can become, in effect, a legally enforceable standard of care for a fire or rescue department. Accordingly, fire and rescue departments should pay close attention to applicable standards

Standard

If we apply for the Grant and accept it then NFPA becomes mandatory.

That is the point.

The intent of the Grant is to enable us to come into compliance with
NFPA Standards.

Two NFPA Standards deal with staffing

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

*And Combination

NFPA 1710 or 1720?

- Do we have volunteers?
 - Enough to count
 - We need to be honest with ourselves
- This isn't about a union or volunteerism
 - This is about our ability to provide a service to those who call 911 in their time of need
 - Whenever that time is
 - Whatever that need is

NFPA 1710 or 1720?

- Staffing 24/7 is an issue and its not just a COVID issue
- We are a 24/7 operation regardless of when the slow times are
- We don't have any more volunteer staff at night then we do during the day.
 - We currently have 3 interior “qualified” volunteer firefighters
 - What is their availability?
 - Statistically **0**

Two NFPA Standards deal with staffing

NFPA 1710

Career department with no supplemental volunteer response

Automatic mutual aid counts

- Usually from other career departments

NFPA 1720

Can be primarily career or volunteer

- Combined they supply the staff and in the end the number of people required to mitigate an emergency
- Automatic mutual aid counts but from who?
 - What is their staffing?
 - Availability?

1710 or 1720

In the end there is very little difference between the two – the incident dictates the resources needed not the pay status

The major difference is whether we are willing to admit we have the ability to provide the resources necessary in a time-frame that will allow us to effectively mitigate Mr. & Mrs. Smith's emergency.

1710 and 1720

The standards include **minimum** requirements that are intended to provide effective, efficient, and safe protective services that operate on a sound basis to prevent fires, reduce risk to **lives and property**, deal with incidents that occur, and prepare for anticipated incidents.

The standards set **minimum** standards considered necessary for the provision of public fire protection by fire departments. They address the structure and operation of organizations providing such services, including fire suppression, emergency medical services (EMS), hazardous materials operations, and special operations

NFPA 1720

- 3.3.26 Initial Attack

- Firefighting efforts and activities that occur in the time increment between the arrival of the fire department on the scene of a fire and the tactical decision by the incident commander that the resources dispatched on the **original response** are insufficient to control and extinguish the fire, or that the fire is extinguished.

NFPA 1720

- 3.3.26 Initial Attack

The initial assumption by NFPA is that the 1st arriving personnel on the scene may be insufficient unless the fire is out on arrival.

It is this period of time that has the greatest impact on a fire. A fire during this period of time is either contained or allowed to grow. If it is allowed to grow it may reach a point where we are unable to assemble enough resources quickly enough to prevent the fire from growing beyond our control.

Why is Initial Fire Attack important?

- When was the last time we had a residential structure fire in LaGrange?

Does that matter?

Why is Initial Fire Attack important?

- When was the last time we had a residential structure fire in LaGrange?

Does that matter?

We are the LaGrange Fire District

Why is Initial Fire Attack important?

- When was the last time we had a residential structure fire in LaGrange?

Does that matter?

We are the LaGrange Fire District

We need to be able to initiate an Initial Fire Attack BEFORE mutual aid arrives.

Why is Initial Fire Attack important?

- One fire or a dozen fires per year should not impact our ability to initiate an Interior Attack
- This is the difference between saving life AND property or loss of life and only a foundation left of the property

How do we do this?

Why is Initial Fire Attack important?

- One fire or a dozen fires per year should not impact our ability to initiate and Interior Attack

How do we do this?

- Volunteers?
 - How many interior firefighters do we really have?
- Mutual aid? (automatic?)
 - Who?
 - Are we shifting our responsibility on to others?
- Our own staff?
 - How many?

NFPA 1720

Before we can answer the staffing/mutual aid question we need to develop a community risk management plan based on a risk analysis

NFPA 1720

Before we can answer the staffing/mutual aid question we need to develop a community risk management plan based on a risk analysis

4.2 Community Risk Management

- The fire department shall participate in a process that develops a community fire and emergency medical services risk management plan.

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

4.2.2

- The number and type of units assigned to respond to a reported incident shall be determined by risk analysis and/or pre-fire planning
 - Why do we have 3 engines, 2 tankers, a heavy rescue, 3 ambulances?
 - Station 3?

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

A4.2

- Other occupancies and risks in the community that present greater hazards should be addressed by additional firefighter functions and additional responding personnel on the initial full alarm assignment. Three broad groups:
 1. High-hazard occupancies: schools, fuel oil distribution
 - There are 6 schools
 - AHS has almost 4,000 people when in session
 2. Medium-hazard occupancies: apartments, offices, mercantile, and industrial occupancies not normally requiring extensive rescue or firefighting forces
 3. Low-hazard occupancies: one-, two-, or three-family dwellings and scattered small businesses and industrial occupancies

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

More than one-quarter (26%) of reported fires in 2014-2018 occurred in homes.

This 26% resulted in

- More than three-quarters (77%) of civilian fire deaths
- Almost three-quarters (73%) of all reported injuries.
 - 65% were in 1 or 2 family homes
 - 10% were in apartments or other multi-family housing
 - 17% were caused by vehicle fires

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

Cooking equipment is the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries

- causing 49% of home fires that resulted in 21% of the home fire deaths and 44% of the injuries.
- Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.
- Ranges or cooktops account for three-fifths (61%) of home cooking fire incidents.
- Cooking is also a leading cause of burn injuries.

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

- Automatic Alarms of Fire
 - Most are false
 - Which ones are false and which ones are not?
 - Updates from the occupants help but are not 100%
 - Every call needs to be responded to with the **appropriate equipment**
 - Not every call needs a full assignment
 - but it needs to be available if it is not a false alarm

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

- We are a bedroom community
 - Most people are home at night
 - Meaning a residential fire at night will require personnel to search for occupants if they are not all accounted for on arrival

NFPA 1720

4.2 Community Risk Management

206 Automatic Fire Alarms in 2020

41 during normal breakfast/dinner hours	4 resulted in a full structure fire assignment
5 overnight (after 23:00)	
25 in the evening (18:30 – 23:00)	1 went to a 2 nd Alarm
18 during lunch hours	1 was a duct fire (debris)
	1 was in a Central Vac System
	2 were due to plastic on a stove
	1 was due to a carelessly discarded cigarette
	1 was a fire in a microwave
	1 was an equipment malfunction

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

4.3.1

- The fire department shall identify minimum staffing requirements to ensure that the number of members that are available to operate are able to meet the needs of the department.

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

4.3.2

- Table 4.3.2 shall be used by the AHJ to determine staffing and response time objectives for structural firefighting
- based on a low-hazard occupancy such as a 2000 ft² (186 m²), two-story, single-family home without basement and exposures and the percentage accomplishment of those objectives

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

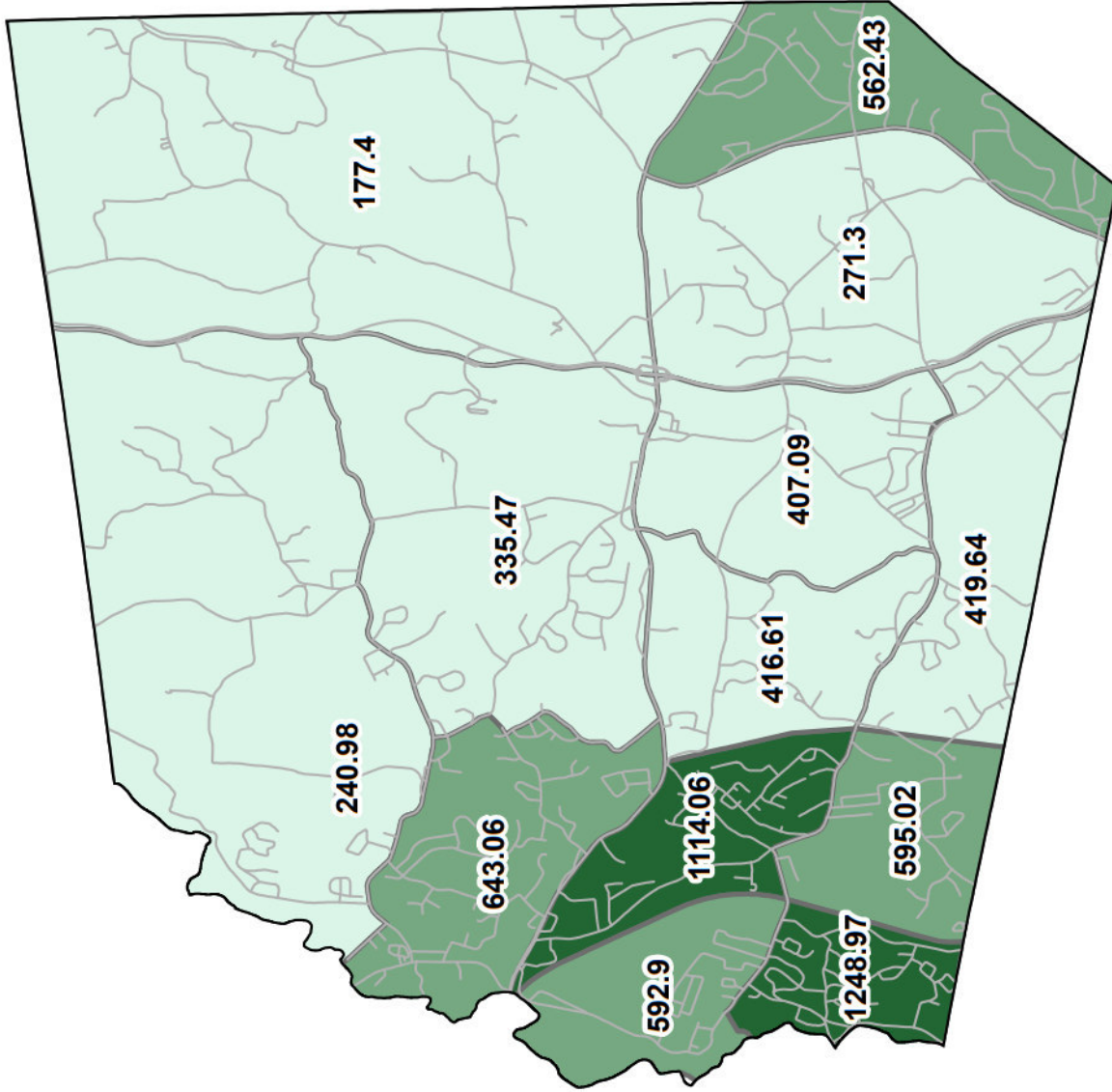
Table 4.3.2

Demand Zone	Min Staff to Respond	Response Time	Meets Objective %
Urban	15	9 min	90
Suburban	10	10 min	80
Rural	6	14 min	80

- Minimum staffing includes members responding from the AHJ's department and automatic aid
- Rural areas have a lower population density and require six people
 - two in/two out plus the incident commander and pump operator
 - + Paramedic
- Where staffed stations are provided turnout time shall be 90 sec for fire, 60 sec for EMS, 90% of the time.

Population Per Sq. Mile

- 177.40 - 499.99 Residents
- 500.00 - 999.99 Residents
- 1000.00 - 1248.97 Residents
- Roads



NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

- Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council
 - SECTION 6: Requirements for Hudson Valley Regional Advanced Life Support Services
 - B. Must offer ALS service seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day appropriate to the highest level of ALS service authorized to provide. Services entering into agreements with secondary ALS Services to cover their operating area when temporarily unavailable (e.g., all ALS units operating on calls, multiple ALS patients, mechanical failure) must submit a copy of the agreement to the HVREMAC for review. All instances of an inability to provide continuous ALS coverage must be documented by the ALS Service and reported to the HVREMAC immediately following the lapse of coverage;

A paramedic is required at all fire scenes and must be available to render ALS treatment to anyone who needs treatment

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

- Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council

- SECTION 6: Requirements for Hudson Valley Regional Advanced Life Support Services

A paramedic is required at all fire scenes and must be available to render ALS treatment to anyone who needs treatment.

Utilizing a firefighter is not appropriate on several levels

- What FF job is not critical to the incident
 - If it's one of the 1st 6 on the scene all interior operations stop
- Carcinogen contamination
- Exhaustion

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

- Automatic aid (simultaneous dispatch with LFD)
 - Who?
 - How far are they traveling?
 - And how many people are they sending?
 - Depends on the agency
 - Qualifications?
 - Only Interior FF are counted
- Calling for mutual aid after LFD arrives on the scene does meet this requirement.

NFPA 1720

4.3 Staffing and Deployment

- Mutual Aid
- There is a real question regarding our ability meet this standard even mutual aid was automatically dispatched - especially to the Station 1 area.

NFPA 1720

4.6 Initial Firefighting Operations

- 4.6.1
 - Initial firefighting operations shall be organized to ensure that at least four members are assembled before interior fire suppression operations are initiated in a hazardous area.
- 4.6.2
 - In the hazardous area, a minimum of two members shall work as a team
- 4.6.3
 - Outside the hazardous area, a minimum of two members shall be present for assistance or rescue of the team operating in the hazardous area

NFPA 1720

4.6 Initial Firefighting Operations

- 4.6.3.2
 - The assignment of a member shall not be permitted if abandoning that member's critical task(s) to perform rescue would jeopardize the safety and health of any firefighter operating at the incident

This includes those duties associated with the Paramedic requirement.

Keokuk, Iowa December 22, 1999

Structure Fire Claims the Lives of Three Career Fire Fighters and Three Children

NFPA 1720

4.7 Sustained Firefighting Operations

- 4.7.1
 - The fire department shall have the capability for sustained operations, including fire suppression; engagement in search and rescue, forcible entry, ventilation, and preservation of property; accountability for personnel; the deployment of a dedicated rapid intervention crew (RIC); and provision of support activities for those situations that are beyond the capability of the initial attack

- 4.7.3
 - The fire department shall be permitted to use established automatic aid or mutual aid agreements to comply with the requirements

How Does this Affect LFD?

- We DO NOT meet NFPA 1710 or 1720 with 5-person staffing
- We do not have the ability to initiate an Initial Fire Attack with 5-person staffing
- Incident Commander = 1
- Paramedic = 1
- Pump Operator = 1
- Remaining FF = 2 (no 2-out)

How Does this Affect LFD?

- We DO NOT meet NFPA 1710 or 1720 with 6-person staffing
- We do not have the ability to initiate an Initial Fire Attack with 5-person staffing
- Incident Commander = 1
- Paramedic = 1
- Pump Operator = 1
- Remaining FF = 3 (no 2-out) Until IC arrives
or at least 1 vol interior FF

How Does this Affect LFD?

- Auto Accidents
- Incident Commander = 1 (managing the incident)
- 1 Ambulance = 2 (dedicated to patient care)
- 1 Ambulance = 2 (dedicated to patient care)
- 1 Rescue = 1 (Vehicle stabilization, extrication, fire control, traffic control)

This more than a 1-person job

How Does this Affect LFD?

- There was a time when we had volunteer staff
 - Each Company had officers, firefighters/EMTs, Auxiliaries
 - We had Assistant Chiefs

Staffing for any incident was not a problem

For all practical purposes they are all gone

Yet calls still need to be answered 24/7/365

And we need to be prepared for whatever the call is.

How Does this Affect LFD?

- The next step is deciding how many firefighter/EMT/Paramedics are needed for us to comply with NFPA 1720
- SAFER covers 100% of the cost for 3-years
- We need to balance the # of personnel with the increase cost so in 3-years they can be absorbed into the budget.
- We can be proactive with regard to the development in the Town vs reactive
- There are too many variables. I am still working on that and will have more for you on the 17th