

Longmeadow Fire Department
Monthly Report
January 2020



- January was a kind month to the Fire Department. The mild winter and relatively low flu levels resulted in a below average month for call volume. It has been a nice break from the hectic pace we have become accustomed to. Looking toward the New Year, our department will continue to see change. Based on the last five year trend our call volume will most likely increase. We also have two retirements scheduled for this year. With the number of new employees we have, training is of the utmost importance. In the photos below, Captain Zinnack who has served our department for 33 years, coaches a member with two years, while battling a car fire this month. Captain Zinnack will retire in August.



- Ice Rescue Training:** We conducted a joint training exercise with the East Longmeadow Fire Department. This is very important training as this is a low frequency, high acuity skill. The weather this winter has made ice extremely unsafe. Please see Longmeadow Fire Department's Facebook page for cool drone videos of this training and our public service messages on ice safety.



- WestComm:** We are seeing excellent service from WestComm. As the dispatchers gain more familiarity with our operations and we better understand theirs, our working relationship has become seamless. We have already seen significant improvements from our in house dispatch. Here are some of the biggest advantages:

- Dual dispatch of public safety resources: Both FIRE / EMS and Police are dispatched at the same time reducing response times.
 - Emergency Medical Dispatch is often maintained until EMS arrives. Dispatchers are able to remain on the line providing full pre arrival instruction to the calling party.
 - Improved pre-arrival information. The dispatchers are providing more call detail to the responding units prior to their arrival.
 - Ability to manage multiple calls and multiple units. The added dispatchers have a higher capacity to keep up with “surge” demands for dispatch.
 - The members of the Fire Department all agree that this has been a significant safety improvement.
- **EMS Revenue:** We continue to see growth in our EMS revenue. At the end of January revenue is tracking 7.0 % over the same period in FY 19. January is typically a slow month for collections due to the overlap in the calendar year.
 - **Overtime:** It seems that this is a reoccurring theme that I report that our overtime consumption is higher than projection. I am working with the Finance Director and the Town Manger to develop a warrant for the Spring Town meeting.

Month of January: Comparisons

Performance Measures:	January 2019	January 2020
Emergency Medical Calls	173 (62.46%)	155 (74.52%)
False or Unintentional	38	22
Fires / Estimated Dollar Loss	4 (\$ 75,000.00)	4 (\$ 36,000.00)
All Other: (Rescue, Distress, Hazard)	62	27
Mutual Aid: <i>Given / Received</i>	24/12	21/20
Total Responses (Month)	277	208
Total Calendar Year Responses	277	208
Training Hours (Dept. Total)	238 Hours	205 Hours

Fire Prevention, Education and Inspectional Services:

Our Fire Inspector and our public education team have been very busy. They have been out in the community insuring compliance with applicable codes and sharing our fire and home safety messages. The Inspector works with several other town agencies on a daily basis. These include the Building Department, BOH, Schools and COA. The Inspector also administers our SAFE grant and coordinates our education programs. He also coordinates daily EMS support activities including supply management and report consolidation.

The following is a list of activities:

Activity	Dec
Inspection – general (construction site visits, violation specific inspections, etc.)	3
Residential smoke detector inspections and re-inspections	17
Annual Inspections (including liquor license and follow up)	15
Certificate of Occupancy (Commercial and Residential)	0
Permits Issued	6
Smoke Detector Consultation	1
Plan Review	1

Residential Smoke Detector installation	0
Public Education Events (Classes, Presentations, other activity)	0
Fire Investigations / Incident Follow Ups	2
Emergency Responses	7
Shift Coverage (Minimum Staffing)	2
Haz Mat Team Responses	0
Total Activity	54

Fire Prevention Notes:

- Annual inspections have been completed at Bay Path University. Additional follow up will be done during the March spring break.
- The Department received the FY 2020 SAFE Grant and Senior Safe Grant.
- We continue to work with the construction firms building the DPW and Senior Center on various aspects.
- We conducted joint training with the SRO for high school students.
- Substantially completed the FY 2020 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Application (AFG). This will be submitted in March.
- Completed two audits for previous AFG's.

Respectively Submitted: John P. Dearborn, Fire Chief, February 3, 2020