

Bristol Fire Department

Engine 1

2020

Year End Report

Prepared by J. Neumann, Captain

Fire, Rescue and Other Emergency / Non Emergency Calls

Engine 1 responded to 1246 calls in 2020. This is a 9.5% increase in call volume over last year.

Fires – Structure, cooking, vehicles, brush, etc (149) 11.95%

This includes responses to fires in structures, burnt food on the stove or in the oven, fires in electrical panels, electric outlets, appliances, furnace problems, chimney fires, vehicle fires, brush or mulch fires and dumpsters. We responded to 33 structure fires.

Rescue & EMS Incidents: (154) 12.35%

This includes motor vehicle accidents with injuries or entrapment, pedestrians or structures hit. Also included, EMS assists, elevator rescues and lock ins.

Hazardous Conditions: (249) 19.98%

This includes motor vehicle accidents with fluids, gas leaks, chemical leaks, electrical issues, and carbon monoxide incidents.

Service Calls (229) 18.37%

This includes Police assists, unauthorized burning and both residential and vehicle lock outs

Good Intent (116) 9.30%

This includes calls from people who want someone to respond but don't know who to call, canceled en route and steam mistaken for smoke.

False Alarm & False Calls: (345) 27.68%

These include activation of smoke and heat detectors or fire suppression systems, both malicious and accidental.

Headquarters

A major renovation of Headquarters began in June of this year. It has included new HVAC system with a new boiler and hot water heater. Electrical upgrades ranged from a new electrical service to the building including all new electrical panels, new LED lighting and numerous new circuits to the second floor. New windows and doors which included the store fronts and bay doors. A new commercial kitchen and new acoustical ceiling on the second floor. It is being finished off with a fresh coat of paint.

This project is in its final stage which is a welcome site. The crews stationed here dealt with every part of this building being worked on at the same time. As with all renovations, they take longer than planned and cost more than the original bid.

Training

Due to COVID restrictions, training took a serious hit. Crews stationed at HQ used the construction project to train whenever possible. This included using our airbags to assist the construction crew with a stuck boom lift and building ramps using cribbing to move other lifts. The dumpsters have been used in numerous evolutions also. Hose line advancement and search techniques training was done in the stairways and apparatus floor with our new recruits. All personnel from the deputies to the firefighters stepped up coming up with training ideas to keep our skills sharp.

Apparatus

Engine 1 was purchased in 2015. It has proven to be a reliable piece. To date, the biggest complaint is the front end suspension. Both E2 and E4 ride smooth but E1 shakes your bones when you hit a bump. This piece has been to 835 fires since being put into service, 160 of those being structure fires and we have never had a problem with the truck pumping.

Non-Emergency Work Performed by Tower 1 Personnel

Station and Grounds Maintenance:

All station and ground maintenance is performed by fire personnel. Local 773 has put together a committee to raise money and upgrade the monument. Project completion will be prior to 9-11-2021. The design was done by a landscape architect from Winterberry Gardens.

Fire Prevention Classes:

Fire prevention classes were canceled due to COVID restrictions.

Area Surveys:

Surveys were modified this year. We surveyed buildings from the exterior and used our opportunity while on calls to gather info on different buildings.

Personal

This past year has been very trying on us all. From the retirement of two Chiefs, dealing with all the unknowns of COVID to the HQ renovation, I can't remember another year with so much turmoil. I have to say that though it all, the daily changes of how we operate, the dust, the noise, the hand sanitizer, etc the personnel assigned to this station adapted well. I am proud of the personnel stationed here and proud to be one of their Captains. I wish you all a safe and healthy 2021

Respectfully submitted,

J. Neumann, Captain