



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway  
Saugatuck, MI 49453  
Phone: 269 857-3000  
E-mail: [Office@saugatuckfire.org](mailto:Office@saugatuckfire.org)

## **FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**

4:00pm – September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call:
2. Reminder: It is requested that the board silences cell phones and put them away for the duration of the meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*):
4. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. **July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Closed Session** (It is anticipated that the Fire Board may enter into closed session.)
  - B. **August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**
  - C. **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – Special**
5. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes):
6. Request for Payment:
  - a. **Account Payables – Roll Call Vote**
  - b. **Financial Report**
7. Fire Chief Comments:
  - A. **Incident Reports / Calls to Date / Overlapping Calls**
  - B. **Community Risk Reduction**
    1. **State of Michigan has experienced 84 fatal fires year to date for 2018, 3 since last meeting.**
8. Unfinished Business:
  - A. **Fire Code Board of Appeals – Status Update**
  - B. **IFC Spreadsheet**
9. New Business:
  - A. **Welcome New Member & Oath of Office – Dan Fox**
  - B. **Fire Code Board of Appeals – Fee Schedule Approval (Roll Call Vote)**
10. Correspondence:
  - A. **Governing Magazine - Firehouse Article**
11. Public Comments: (Limit 3 minutes):
12. Fire Board Comments:
13. Adjournment:

### **NOTICE**

This facility is wheel chair accessible with accessible parking spaces available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway  
Saugatuck, MI 49453  
Phone: 269 857-3000  
E-mail: [Office@saugatuckfire.org](mailto:Office@saugatuckfire.org)

## FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

4:00pm – August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order / Roll Call: **Meeting called to order by J. Verplank at 4:01pm**  
**Present: C. Roerig, E. Beckman, J. Verplank, S. Phelps, K. Mooradian, A. Miller**  
**Absent with Notice: M. Starring**  
**Also Present: Chief Greg Janik, P. Stanislawski**
2. Reminder: It is requested that the board silences cell phones and put them away for the duration of the meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*):  
**Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mooradian to approve the agenda as presented. No discussion, motion carries unanimously.**
4. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. **July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**
    - a. **Motion by Beckman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Phelps to approve the minutes of the 7/16/2018 regular session meeting as presented. No discussion. All approve, motion carries unanimously.**
    - b. **Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beckman to table the closed session minutes from 7/16/2018 until next meeting. No discussion. All approve, motion carries unanimously.**
5. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes): **None**
6. Guest Speakers
  - A. Stacey Aldrich
    - i. **Stacey introduced herself and her reasons for running for Township Trustee.**
  - B. Abby Bigford
    - i. **Abby introduced himself and her reasons for running for Township Trustee.**
  - C. Jon Helmrich
    - i. **Jon introduced himself and his reasons for running for Township Treasurer.**
7. Request for Payment:
  - a. **Account Payables – Roll Call Vote**
    - i. **Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mooradian to approve the invoices in the amount of \$92,986.73. Discussion ensued.**  
**YEAS: Phelps, Mooradian, Miller, Verplank, Roerig, Beckman**  
**NEAS: None**  
**ABSENT with Notice: Starring**  
**Motion passes 6:0**
  - b. **Financial Report**
    - i. **Financial report was reviewed by P. Stanislawski.**
8. Fire Chief Comments:
  - A. **Incident Reports / Calls to Date / Overlapping Calls**
    1. **Incident report statistics were reviewed – 535 calls year to date.**
    2. **5:69 – average response time year to date.**
  - B. **Community Risk Reduction**
    1. **State of Michigan has experienced 81 fatal fires year to date for 2018, 16 since last meeting.**
  - C. **Grant Awards**
    1. **Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition - awarded \$1,000 for Side by Side Sprinkler Demonstrations.**
    2. **Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition – awarded \$1,000 for Sprinkler Riser Display.**



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



## 9. Unfinished Business:

### A. Fire Code Board of Appeals – Status Update

- i. Saugatuck City has not appointed their members but plans to next week.
- ii. Douglas City has not appointed their members but plans to at the meeting tonight.
- iii. All revised Board of Appeals ordinances have passed.
- iv. Board will have Chief Janik reach out to Fire District Attorney for direction to proceed with writing Rules of Procedure for the Board of Appeals.

### B. Northshore's Residential Water Supply

- i. Documents were reviewed with the Attorney after the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Fire Board meeting, and the attorney drafted the letter. Discussion ensued.

### C. IFC Spreadsheet

- i. A. Miller has been assisting Chief Janik on revising the detailed list to a version that is not overly technical and the public and municipalities will be able to interpret.

## 10. New Business:

### A. Funding Approval Request – Thermal Imaging Camera – \$7,199.00 - Roll Call Vote

- i. Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mooradian to purchase the Thermal Imaging Camera in the amount of \$7,199.

YEAS: Phelps, Mooradian, Miller, Verplank, Roerig, Beckman

NEAS: None

ABSENT with Notice: Starring

Motion passes 6:0

### B. Firehouse Subs – Grant Application Approval – Roll Call Vote

- i. Application for Traffic Attenuator Trailer in the amount of \$28,380.40 to be fully funded by the grant if awarded.
- ii. Motion by Roerig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to approve the grant application in the amount of \$28,380.40 to be fully funded by the grant if awarded.

YEAS: Roerig, Miller, Beckman, Phelps, Verplank, Mooradian

NEAS: None

ABSENT with Notice: Starring

Motion passes 6:0

### C. Law Enforcement Agencies – Use of facilities.

- i. Discussion ensued about liability of agencies using the facilities.
- ii. Chief Janik will follow up with MMRMA to ensure the District is covered.

## 11. Correspondence:

### A. None.

## 12. Public Comments: (Limit 3 minutes):

### A. Scott Bosgraaf

- i. Discussed Northshore Development.
- ii. Discussed BuildSB Commercial Development.

## 13. Fire Board Comments:

- A. E. Beckman – asked about rental properties.
- B. A. Miller – asked questions about BuildSB development.

## 14. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm

### NOTICE

This facility is wheel chair accessible with accessible parking spaces available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway  
Saugatuck, MI 49453  
Phone: 269 857-3000  
E-mail: [Office@saugatuckfire.org](mailto:Office@saugatuckfire.org)

## FIRE DISTRICT BOARD "SPECIAL" MEETING

9:00am – September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call: **Meeting called to order by J. Verplank at 9:00am**  
**PRESENT: C. Roerig, E. Beckman, D. Fox, J. Verplank, S. Phelps, A. Miller**  
**ABSENT with Notice: K. Mooradian**  
**ALSO PRESENT: Chief Greg Janik**
2. Reminder: It is requested that the board silences cell phones and put them away for the duration of the meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*): **Agenda stands as presented.**
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes): **None**
5. Unfinished Business:
  - A. **Fire Code Board of Appeals – Status Update**
    - i. E. Beckman was appointed Township Representative
    - ii. A. Miller was appointed for City of Douglas
    - iii. J. Verplank was appointed for City of Saugatuck
    - iv. Discussion ensued about by-laws.
  - B. **IFC Spreadsheet – Aaron Miller**
    - i. A. Miller presented a power point on the IFC topics.
    - ii. Discussion ensued about the IFC modifications in the Township.
6. New Business:
  - A. **Wage Study and Pay Scale Status**
    - i. Discussion ensued about data.
  - B. **Pending Litigation (It is anticipated that the board may enter into closed session)**
    - i. Discussion ensued.
    - ii. Board will discuss at a later date after attorney representation.
7. Public Comments: (Limit 3 minutes): **None**
8. Fire Board Comments: **None**
9. Adjournment: **Meeting adjourned at 10:10am**

#### NOTICE

This facility is wheel chair accessible with accessible parking spaces available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.

09/14/2018 CHECK REGISTER FOR SAUGATUCK FIRE DISTRICT				
CHECK DATE FROM 08/21/2018 - 09/17/2018				
Check Date	Check	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Bank MAC MACATAWA BANK				
08/24/2018	DD1965(A)	BETTS, MICHAEL	PAYROLL	946.42
08/24/2018	DD1966(A)	JANIK, GREG	PAYROLL	1,990.32
08/24/2018	DD1967(A)	MANTELS, CHRISTOPHER	PAYROLL	1,705.80
08/24/2018	DD1968(A)	MILESKIEWICZ, JOHN	PAYROLL	997.52
08/24/2018	EFT499(E)	457 MERS	PAYROLL	874.41
08/24/2018	EFT500(E)	MISDU	PAYROLL	217.86
08/24/2018	EFT501(E)	IRS	PAYROLL	1,798.39
08/24/2018	EFT502(E)	MERS	PAYROLL	4,007.02
08/24/2018	EFT503(E)	STATE OF MICHIGAN	PAYROLL	1,525.34
08/30/2018	1153(A)	PRAXAIR	CYLINDER RENTAL	108.72
08/30/2018	1154(A)	SECURE N SAFE LLC	KEY FOBS	114.00
08/30/2018	1155(A)	SISTERS IN INK	UNIFORMS	574.00
08/30/2018	1156(A)	TELE RAD INC	RADIO CHARGERS	1,780.00
08/30/2018	1157(A)	TRIDENT EMERGENCY PRODUCTS L	2142 PUMP PROJECT	1,445.44
08/31/2018	1158(E)	MENARDS	REPAIRS & SUPPLIES	654.88
08/31/2018	1159(E)	PRIORITY HEALTH	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,972.10
09/07/2018	DD1969(A)	BETTS, MICHAEL	PAYROLL	946.40
09/07/2018	DD1970(A)	JANIK, GREG	PAYROLL	1,968.12
09/07/2018	DD1971(A)	MANTELS, CHRISTOPHER	PAYROLL	1,794.81
09/07/2018	DD1972(A)	MILESKIEWICZ, JOHN	PAYROLL	1,047.41
09/07/2018	EFT504(E)	457 MERS	PAYROLL	877.09
09/07/2018	EFT505(E)	MISDU	PAYROLL	217.86
09/07/2018	DD1973(A)	BECKMAN, ERIC	PAYROLL	25.82
09/07/2018	DD1974(A)	BEEK, HEATHER	PAYROLL	496.24
09/07/2018	DD1975(A)	BERNHARDY, CHRISTOPHER	PAYROLL	2,586.23
09/07/2018	DD1976(A)	BETTS, MICHAEL	PAYROLL	1,188.31
09/07/2018	DD1977(A)	BLATT, DAVID	PAYROLL	1,116.71
09/07/2018	DD1978(A)	BLOK, MICHAEL	PAYROLL	548.82
09/07/2018	DD1979(A)	DORNBUSH, KALEIGH	PAYROLL	623.64
09/07/2018	DD1980(A)	ENGLAND, MICHAEL	PAYROLL	38.32
09/07/2018	DD1981(A)	GARGANO, CHRISTINE	PAYROLL	312.19
09/07/2018	DD1982(A)	GARGANO, MARK	PAYROLL	337.88
09/07/2018	DD1983(A)	GUST, MADELINE	PAYROLL	244.29
09/07/2018	DD1984(A)	KERRIDGE, ADAM	PAYROLL	18.20
09/07/2018	DD1985(A)	KIRCHERT, ERIK	PAYROLL	689.49
09/07/2018	DD1986(A)	MANTELS, CHRISTOPHER	PAYROLL	654.23
09/07/2018	DD1987(A)	MCGOWAN, WILLIAM	PAYROLL	328.19
09/07/2018	DD1988(A)	MEISTE, JAMES	PAYROLL	110.54
09/07/2018	DD1989(A)	MEYER, KYLE	PAYROLL	1,200.98
09/07/2018	DD1990(A)	MILESKIEWICZ, JOHN	PAYROLL	220.50
09/07/2018	DD1991(A)	MILLER, AARON	PAYROLL	25.43
09/07/2018	DD1992(A)	MOKMA, WAYNE	PAYROLL	246.69
09/07/2018	DD1993(A)	MOORADIAN, KATHRYN	PAYROLL	26.12
09/07/2018	19811	PHELPS, DONALD	PAYROLL	26.42
09/07/2018	DD1994(A)	PINA, ALYSSA	PAYROLL	172.95

09/14/2018 CHECK REGISTER FOR SAUGATUCK FIRE DISTRICT				
CHECK DATE FROM 08/21/2018 - 09/17/2018				
Check Date	Check	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
09/07/2018	DD1995(A)	REWA, LANDON	PAYROLL	508.84
09/07/2018	DD1996(A)	ROERIG, CHRISTOPHER	PAYROLL	25.43
09/07/2018	DD1997(A)	SEYMOUR, SCOTT	PAYROLL	548.23
09/07/2018	DD1998(A)	STARRING, LINUS	PAYROLL	302.65
09/07/2018	STUB65(A)	STURM, ELLIOTT	PAYROLL	0.00
09/07/2018	DD1999(A)	VAN AUKEN, LAUREL	PAYROLL	382.79
09/07/2018	DD2000(A)	VERPLANK, JANE	PAYROLL	26.42
09/07/2018	DD2001(A)	WILKINSON, ERIN	PAYROLL	146.24
09/07/2018	EFT506(E)	457 MERS	PAYROLL	2,172.96
09/07/2018	EFT507(E)	MISDU	PAYROLL	267.51
09/07/2018	EFT508(E)	IRS	PAYROLL	5,602.37
09/11/2018	DD2002(A)	MILESKIEWICZ, JOHN	PAYROLL	482.03
09/12/2018	EFT509(E)	457 MERS	PAYROLL	24.70
09/17/2018	19812	IHLE AUTO PARTS	REPAIRS	152.71
09/17/2018	19813	MFE INC	SENSIT CYLINDER	255.40
09/17/2018	19814	ARNOLD SALES	SUPPLIES	13.13
09/17/2018	19815	ISFSI	DUES	125.00
09/17/2018	19816	CASCADE RESCUE	TERRAIN MASTER LITTER WHEEL	808.75
09/17/2018	19817	AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE	MEDICAL SUPPLY	64.22
09/17/2018	19818	D & L TRUCK & TRAILER LLC	2142 REPAIR A/C	270.00
09/17/2018	19819	UNIFORM & ACCESSORIES WAREHO	UNIFORMS	1,958.12
09/17/2018	19820	MMRMA	INSURANCE	5,821.00
09/17/2018	19821	NFPA	FIRE PREVENTION	117.95
09/17/2018	19822	OVERISEL LUMBER CO	SUPPLIES	129.29
09/17/2018	19823	SOUTHSIDE BODY & FABRICATION	ARROW BOARD	2,425.00
09/17/2018	19824	STANDARD	INSURANCE	550.20
09/17/2018	1160(E)	ACCIDENT FUND	WORKER COMP	7,367.00
09/17/2018	1161(E)	COMCAST	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	262.91
09/17/2018	1162(E)	CONSUMERS ENERGY	FIRE BUILDING	610.01
09/17/2018	1163(E)	CONSUMERS ENERGY	BOAT DOCK	30.56
09/17/2018	1164(E)	ENGINEERED PROTECTION SYSTEM	ALARM MONITORING	222.00
09/17/2018	1165(E)	FIRST BANKCARD	DUES, FIRE PREVENTION & TRAINING	4,621.93
09/17/2018	1166(E)	MENARDS	FIRE PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE	1,057.22
09/17/2018	1167(E)	MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES	NATURAL GAS	43.23
09/17/2018	1168(E)	PRIORITY HEALTH	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,972.10
09/17/2018	1169(E)	REPUBLIC SERVICES 240	TRASH	91.53
09/17/2018	1170(E)	VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONES & MODEMS	536.66
09/17/2018	1171(A)	APPLIED IMAGING	COPIER USE	141.14
09/17/2018	1172(A)	BLOOM SLUGGETT MORGAN	LEGAL FEES	1,500.00
09/17/2018	1173(A)	BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS INC	TESTING	1,100.70
09/17/2018	1174(A)	FRIS OFFICE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	106.08
09/17/2018	1175(A)	GREG JANIK	DUES	20.00
09/17/2018	1176(A)	MOORE MEDICAL LLC	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	245.02
09/17/2018	1177(A)	LORRIE PASTOOR	CLEANING	180.00
09/17/2018	1178(A)	WEST MICHIGAN UNIFORM	SHOP TOWELS	38.00
Total of 90 Checks:				84,129.13

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
1. ACCIDENT FUND		
	WORKER COMP	7,367.00
2. AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE		
	MEDICAL SUPPLY	64.22
3. APPLIED IMAGING		
	COPIER USE	141.14
4. ARNOLD SALES		
	SUPPLIES	13.13
5. BLOOM SLUGGETT MORGAN		
	LEGAL FEES	1,500.00
6. BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS INC		
	TESTING	1,100.70
7. CASCADE RESCUE		
	TERRAIN MASTER LITTER WHEEL	808.75
8. COMCAST		
	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	262.91
9. CONSUMERS ENERGY		
	FIRE BUILDING	610.01
	BOAT DOCK	30.56
	TOTAL	640.57
10. D & L TRUCK & TRAILER LLC		
	2142 REPAIR A/C	270.00
11. ENGINEERED PROTECTION SYSTEMS INC		
	ALARM MONITORING	222.00
12. FIRST BANKCARD		
	DUES, FIRE PREVENTION & TRAINING	2,065.04
	TRAINING & REPAIRS	2,511.19
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	45.70
	TOTAL	4,621.93
13. FRIS OFFICE		
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	106.08
14. GREG JANIK		
	DUES	20.00
15. IHLE AUTO PARTS		
	REPAIRS	152.71
16. ISFSI		
	DUES	125.00
17. LORRIE PASTOOR		
	CLEANING	180.00
18. MENARDS		
	FIRE PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE	1,057.22
	REPAIRS & SUPPLIES	654.88
	TOTAL	1,712.10
19. MFE INC		
	SENSIT CYLINDER	255.40
20. MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES		
	NATURAL GAS	43.23
21. MMRMA		
	INSURANCE	5,071.00
	INSURANCE	750.00
	TOTAL	5,821.00
22. MOORE MEDICAL LLC		
	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	159.10
	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	85.92
	TOTAL	245.02

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
23. NFPA	FIRE PREVENTION	117.95
24. OVERISEL LUMBER CO	SUPPLIES	129.29
25. PRAXAIR	CYLINDER RENTAL	108.72
26. PRIORITY HEALTH	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,972.10
	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,972.10
	TOTAL	5,944.20
27. REPUBLIC SERVICES 240	TRASH	91.53
28. SECURE N SAFE LLC	KEY FOBS	114.00
29. SISTERS IN INK	CUTTING CHARGE	4.00
	UNIFORMS	570.00
	TOTAL	574.00
30. SOUTHSIDE BODY & FABRICATION INC	ARROW BOARD	2,425.00
31. STANDARD	INSURANCE	550.20
32. TELE RAD INC	RADIO CHARGERS	1,780.00
33. TRIDENT EMERGENCY PRODUCTS LLC	2142 PUMP PROJECT	1,445.44
34. UNIFORM & ACCESSORIES WAREHOUSE	UNIFORMS	1,958.12
35. VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONES & MODEMS	536.66
36. WEST MICHIGAN UNIFORM	SHOP TOWELS	38.00
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		41,486.00
<b>FUND TOTALS:</b>		
Fund 206 - FIRE FUND		41,486.00



User: Peter

DB: Stfd

PERIOD ENDING 09/30/2018

		2018-19	YTD BALANCE	ACTIVITY FOR	AVAILABLE	
		09/30/2018	09/30/2018	MONTH 09/30/2018	BALANCE	% BDGT
GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	INCREASE (DECREASE)	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	USED
Fund 206 - FIRE FUND						
Revenues						
Dept 000						
206-000-401.000	SAUGATUCK CITY	295,000.00	0.00	0.00	295,000.00	0.00
206-000-402.000	SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP	612,000.00	0.00	0.00	612,000.00	0.00
206-000-403.000	DOUGLAS CITY	307,000.00	0.00	0.00	307,000.00	0.00
206-000-450.000	FIRE SERVICES	1,000.00	888.80	433.55	111.20	88.88
206-000-460.000	INSPECTION & PLAN REVIEW FEES	1,000.00	2,950.00	300.00	(1,950.00)	295.00
206-000-465.000	COST RECOVERY	1,000.00	1,450.00	0.00	(450.00)	145.00
206-000-560.000	GRANTS & DONATIONS	1,000.00	1,785.00	1,000.00	(785.00)	178.50
206-000-665.000	INTEREST	500.00	1,552.16	0.00	(1,052.16)	310.43
206-000-685.000	SALES OF ASSETS	500.00	600.00	600.00	(100.00)	120.00
Total Dept 000		1,219,000.00	9,225.96	2,333.55	1,209,774.04	0.76
TOTAL REVENUES		1,219,000.00	9,225.96	2,333.55	1,209,774.04	0.76
Expenditures						
Dept 336 - FIRE FUND						
206-336-702.000	BOARD SALARY	3,000.00	390.00	180.00	2,610.00	13.00
206-336-704.000	CHIEF SALARY	71,400.00	12,283.93	2,818.85	59,116.07	17.20
206-336-705.000	OFFICER SALARIES	12,000.00	1,262.48	687.49	10,737.52	10.52
206-336-708.000	CAREER FIREFIGHTER	193,750.00	22,449.90	5,131.02	171,300.10	11.59
206-336-709.000	OPERATIONAL WAGES	54,600.00	9,729.92	4,938.32	44,870.08	17.82
206-336-710.000	FIRE CALLS	45,000.00	11,874.19	5,017.20	33,125.81	26.39
206-336-711.000	MEDICAL CALLS	30,000.00	6,852.22	3,662.64	23,147.78	22.84
206-336-712.000	TRAINING	22,000.00	2,527.75	984.75	19,472.25	11.49
206-336-713.000	SPECIAL EVENTS	11,000.00	5,478.93	2,346.00	5,521.07	49.81
206-336-720.000	PAYROLL TAXES	33,000.00	5,733.63	2,024.66	27,266.37	17.37
206-336-721.000	EMPLOYEE INSURANCE BENEFITS	77,100.00	19,228.43	4,311.30	57,871.57	24.94
206-336-722.000	WORKER COMP INSURANCE	32,000.00	18,341.00	7,367.00	13,659.00	57.32
206-336-723.000	RETIREMENT	50,000.00	7,736.41	2,167.17	42,263.59	15.47
206-336-727.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES	18,000.00	8,048.61	245.93	9,951.39	44.71
206-336-728.000	GAS & OIL	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	11,000.00	0.00
206-336-730.000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	20,000.00	4,637.00	1,680.00	15,363.00	23.19
206-336-742.000	TESTING, REPAIR & REPLACEMENT	11,500.00	1,458.31	1,432.31	10,041.69	12.68
206-336-745.000	STATION TOOLS	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00
206-336-746.000	FIRE FIGHTER TOOLS	6,400.00	2,939.71	808.75	3,460.29	45.93
206-336-751.000	PHONES	11,000.00	2,700.98	981.94	8,299.02	24.55
206-336-752.000	UTILITIES	13,000.00	2,085.33	775.33	10,914.67	16.04
206-336-760.000	VEHICLE/ EQUIP REP & MAINTENANCE	40,000.00	7,169.24	1,311.91	32,830.76	17.92
206-336-761.000	BOAT MAINTENANCE	15,000.00	3,896.48	21.98	11,103.52	25.98
206-336-762.000	RADIO & PAGER R&R	6,500.00	1,780.00	0.00	4,720.00	27.38
206-336-763.000	BUILDING REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	16,000.00	2,060.92	676.16	13,939.08	12.88
206-336-764.000	BUILDING SECURITY	2,000.00	336.00	222.00	1,664.00	16.80
206-336-767.000	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	2,000.00	815.00	295.00	1,185.00	40.75
206-336-770.000	OFFICE EXPENSES	7,000.00	648.06	253.92	6,351.94	9.26
206-336-771.000	TECHNOLOGY	9,600.00	305.00	0.00	9,295.00	3.18
206-336-775.000	BUILDING INSPECTIONS	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
206-336-780.000	UNIFORMS	10,000.00	4,272.83	2,944.15	5,727.17	42.73
206-336-781.000	TURN OUT GEAR	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00
206-336-785.000	EDUCATION	15,000.00	2,349.20	964.87	12,650.80	15.66
206-336-791.000	MEDICAL SUPPLY	6,500.00	1,295.82	374.57	5,204.18	19.94
206-336-795.000	FIRE PREVENTION	10,000.00	2,427.26	1,668.77	7,572.74	24.27
206-336-796.000	PHYSICALS	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	0.00
206-336-815.000	GENERAL INSURANCE	23,000.00	6,187.00	5,821.00	16,813.00	26.90

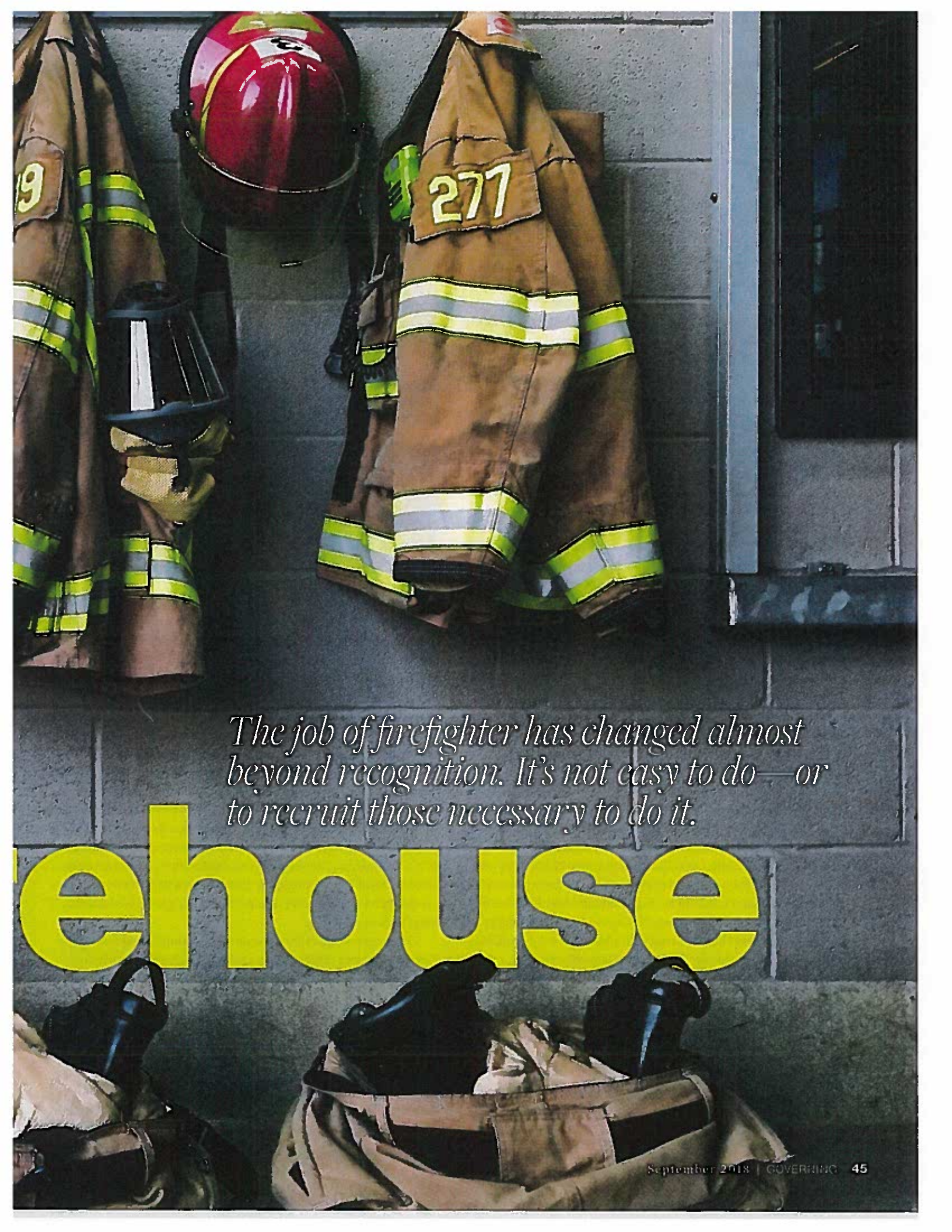
User: Peter

DB: Stfd

PERIOD ENDING 09/30/2018

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2018-19 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 09/30/2018 NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	ACTIVITY FOR MONTH 09/30/2018 INCREASE (DECREASE)	AVAILABLE BALANCE NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	% BDGT USED
Fund 206 - FIRE FUND						
Expenditures						
206-336-861.000	TAX CHARGE BACK	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
206-336-975.000	LOAN PAYMENT	42,100.00	0.00	0.00	42,100.00	0.00
206-336-985.000	LONG TERM CAPITAL	200,000.00	2,425.00	2,425.00	197,575.00	1.21
206-336-986.000	CAPITAL FUND TRANSFER	50,050.00	0.00	0.00	50,050.00	0.00
Total Dept 336 - FIRE FUND		1,219,000.00	181,726.54	64,539.99	1,037,273.46	14.91
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,219,000.00	181,726.54	64,539.99	1,037,273.46	14.91
Fund 206 - FIRE FUND:						
TOTAL REVENUES		1,219,000.00	9,225.96	2,333.55	1,209,774.04	0.76
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,219,000.00	181,726.54	64,539.99	1,037,273.46	14.91
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		0.00	(172,500.58)	(62,206.44)	172,500.58	100.00





*The job of firefighter has changed almost beyond recognition. It's not easy to do—or to recruit those necessary to do it.*

# ehouse



T

he job of a firefighter isn't what it used to be. Take Charlottesville, Va., for example, where in just the past 18 months the fire departments in the city and surrounding Albemarle County have searched the wreckage of a plane crash in a hard-to-reach wooded area, performed water rescues after spring floods, responded to

the derailment of a passenger train carrying Republican members of Congress and, most memorably, provided medical assistance during white supremacist rallies in Charlottesville, including one incident that left three people dead last summer. This was all in addition to dealing with downed power lines, an ammonia leak, frozen pipes and yes, even a few fires.

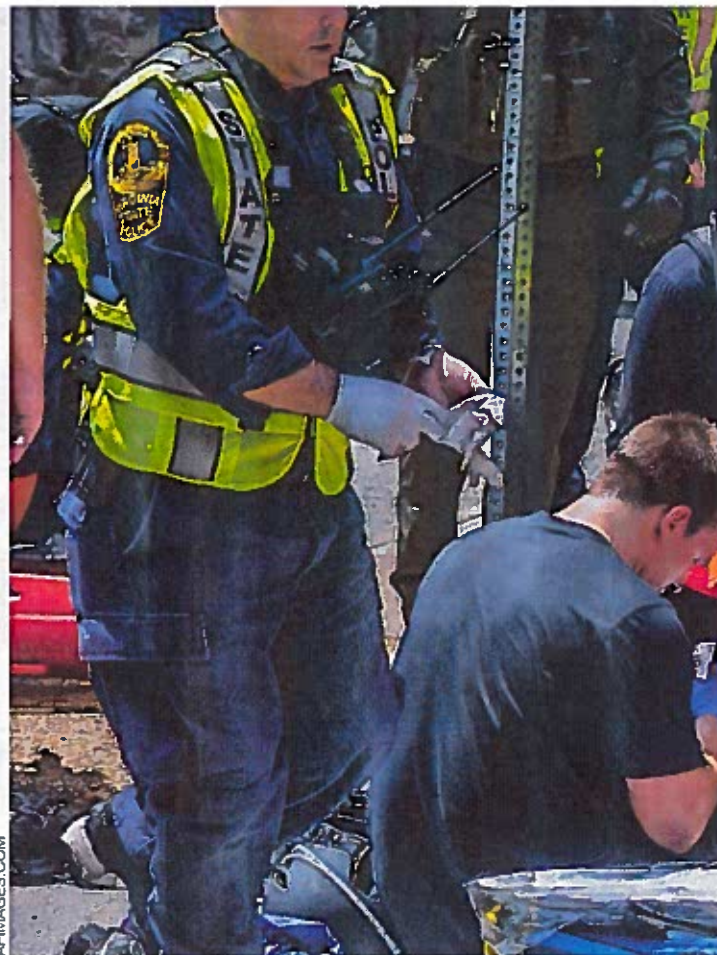
The workload of fire departments has grown substantially, even as their core mission—putting out fires—has dwindled. “Communities tend to lean on the fire service in times of crisis,” says Charlottesville Fire Chief Andrew Baxter. “People are looking to the fire service for leadership and partnership for all aspects of emergency response.”

But that ever-evolving mission has brought new strains. It requires training and planning for new dangers such as civil disturbances or active shooters. With increased call volumes, it requires more personnel at a time when a growing number of agencies are finding it difficult to recruit both career and volunteer firefighters, and to diversify their workforces to include more women and minorities. And it comes as some cash-strapped cities are questioning whether the old system of responding to larger call volumes by deploying more firefighters with bigger equipment at more fire stations is sustainable anymore.

As an affluent city of 47,000 that is home to the University of Virginia, Charlottesville is no backwater. But it's struggling with how to meet today's new demands like everyone else. It alone couldn't handle the events of Saturday, Aug. 12, 2017, when white supremacists gathered for a “Unite the Right” rally and thousands of counterprotesters came out to oppose them. The city and county reached out to departments throughout the state to be ready with fire suppression, hazardous material controls and emergency medical teams to respond to events. The Charlottesville Fire Department ultimately helped coordinate a massive emergency response, one of the largest public safety deployments in Virginia history.

Tensions were high. Local firefighters spent 72 hours in what fire officials describe as a combat environment. Baxter was worried enough about their condition to bring in mental health counselors from around the country who specialized in treating firefighters. That Monday, every Charlottesville firefighter took the day off. Five engine companies, a ladder truck, a battalion chief and four medic units from departments elsewhere in Virginia kept watch over the city. “We turned over fire and rescue duties for Charlottesville for 24 hours,” Baxter recalls. “Nobody said no. It was a special moment.”

And it's a moment that's emblematic of firefighters' changing roles. In 2016, the last year for which data is available, fire departments in the United States responded to 35.3 million calls. That's more than three times as many as in 1981, even though the U.S. population increased by only 42 percent. The striking thing is that, during that time, the number of fires that these departments



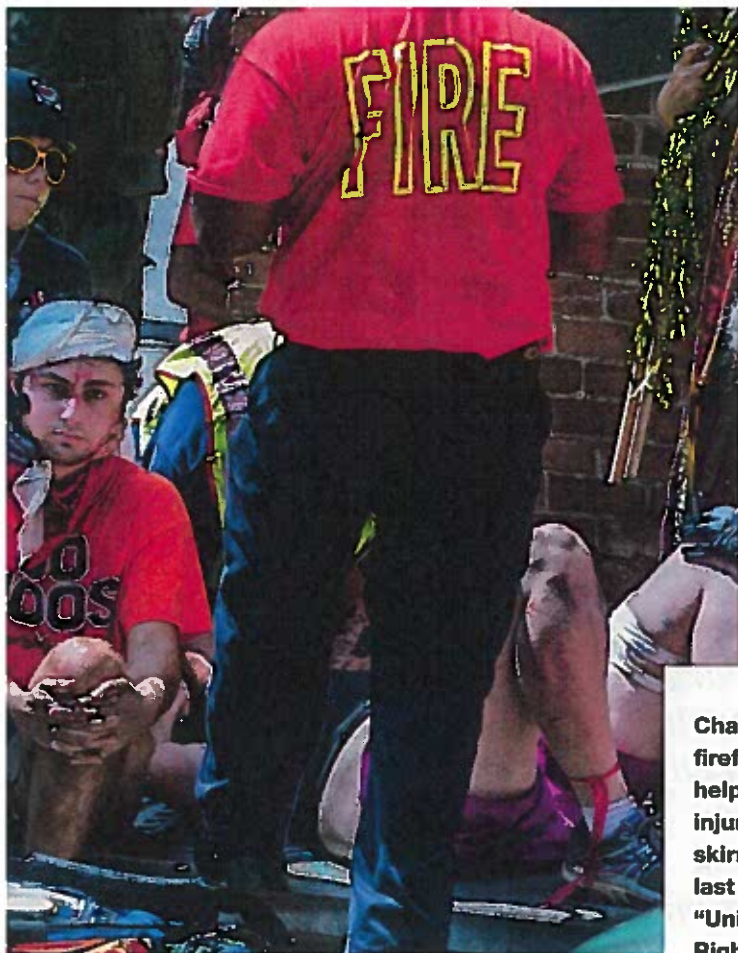
AP IMAGES.COM

responded to actually fell to less than half of the number in 1981. By 2016, fires made up less than 4 percent of all the calls that fire departments responded to. Medical emergencies accounted for 68 percent.

The growing share of medical emergencies handled by fire departments is a long-developing trend, but departments still struggle to adjust to their changing mission. On the one hand, their new role as “all-risk, all-hazard” response teams makes them indispensable in disaster planning and mitigation. On the other hand, the more their core duties stray from fire suppression and rescues, the more difficult it is to train, recruit and retain the workers they need. “Our recruiting pamphlets for fire departments show people fighting fires in their bunker gear or pulling people out of vehicles,” says Thomas Jenkins, the fire chief in Rogers, Ark. “But the first thousand calls in a firefighter's career may not involve any of those things. We save exponentially more people in emergency medical care. But we don't do a good job educating people about what it is.”

There are several other reasons why recruiting and retention have grown more difficult. One is that the financial payoffs don't look as attractive for salaried firefighters as they once did. Pensions for veteran firefighters have generally remained intact, but retirement benefits for new recruits are less generous than they were before the Great Recession. Salaries have been essentially flat, with national median pay hovering around \$49,000 for the past several years. Now that the nation's unemployment is down to around 4 percent, firefighters are looking at other opportunities earlier in their careers than they once did. Their training in emergency medicine can make them attractive candidates for jobs in





**Charlottesville firefighters help a protestor injured in a skirmish during last year's "Unite the Right" rally.**

health-care professions, something that was not the case a couple of decades ago.

While there's been a slight uptick in the number of career firefighters from 2010 to 2015, departments are still having a hard time meeting staffing demands.

This is especially true in smaller jurisdictions. Industry standards require a minimum of four firefighters assigned to every engine or pumper. More than a third of cities with at least half a million people reported in 2015 that they did not meet that staffing threshold, compared with a fifth in 2010. But among cities with populations between 50,000 and 100,000, 80 percent did not meet the four-firefighters-per-engine standard. The unavoidable truth, says Jenkins, "is that we have a very legitimate recruitment and retention problem for full-time fire departments. Almost every department is seeing a decrease in people testing and applying to be firefighters." The situation only promises to get worse as a wave of baby boom firefighters retires over the next several years.

Part of the problem is convincing candidates to sign up for the intense lifestyle of fire service. For career firefighters, for example, that usually means working a 24-hour shift and then getting two days off. "It's hard to maintain a work-life balance with families and side jobs," says Jenkins. "If you've had two or three calls after midnight, it's tough to be a good dad, a good husband or to go to a second job."

Smaller departments that rely heavily or exclusively on volunteer firefighters have been grappling with this problem for a long time. Dave Finger of the National Volunteer Fire Council says the number of volunteers has remained about the same, but call volumes have increased significantly. Small-town residents who

might be interested in volunteer fire work are traveling ever-longer distances to get to their regular jobs, leaving less time for pursuits like volunteering.

Then there's the simple matter of figuring out whose job it is to recruit new members when the whole department is made up of volunteers. "How much bandwidth does a volunteer fire chief have to engage in a professional recruitment campaign," Finger asks, "when he or she also has to make sure everybody is trained, has to make sure that the department's equipment is maintained, and has to get out there and respond to calls?"

Many rural fire departments have switched from all volunteers to a mix of volunteers and career firefighters, specifically so they can have a full-time fire chief to take care of all the administrative tasks and paperwork.

Meanwhile, fire departments are struggling to become more diverse; they are still overwhelmingly white and male. Among career firefighters, only about 5 percent are women. Blacks and Hispanics are also underrepresented. The gap is significantly wider in many major cities. But women and minorities are better represented among paramedics and emergency medical technicians working for fire departments—31 percent of paramedics and EMTs are women, 10 percent are black and 9 percent are Latino. Paramedics and EMTs are generally paid less than firefighters.

In the #MeToo era, sexual harassment, misconduct and discrimination lawsuits against fire departments create serious image problems and recruitment obstacles. In Fairfax County, Va., the fire chief recently stepped down after years of criticism over how the department—which is widely respected for its urban search-and-rescue team—handled charges of bullying, favoritism and harassment. The scrutiny came when a 31-year-old firefighter killed herself, following online harassment from her colleagues (it was unclear whether those comments played a role in her suicide). Fire Chief Richard Bowers ultimately retired after the widow of the firefighter called for his resignation.

In Chicago, five women paramedics sued the Chicago Fire Department, charging that they were groped and harassed by their superiors. One veteran field chief, the suit claims, used a special key to unlock the sleeping quarters of a paramedic as she slept. Salt Lake City is fighting allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination and retaliation after its fire department demoted and then fired its first female battalion chief. In San Diego, a captain filed a lawsuit in May alleging that her coworkers groped her, unzipped her shirt, shared sexually explicit images, sent suggestive and unwanted text messages, denied her promotions routinely given to her male colleagues, and then made her harassment complaints public, which led to more harassment.

**F**ire departments are wrestling with these damaging personnel issues as they confront rising demands on their resources and infrastructure.

State and local governments spend roughly \$2 billion a year on construction for fire departments, an amount that's been slowly inching up in inflation-adjusted terms since the end of

the Great Recession. But Jenkins, the Arkansas fire chief and a former president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, says getting local officials and voters to support new spending on firehouses has become tougher. "Fire departments had a tendency when they needed resources to make a generic argument: 'We save lives. If we don't get what we need, there are dangerous consequences,'" he says. That argument is not working as well in an era when local governments face tighter budgets and a skeptical public that scrutinizes local spending. "People want to make sure local government is accountable," Jenkins says. "That's driven fire departments to articulate their need."

One way to do that is to stress the challenge to abide by industry standards, particularly one specifying that fire services should arrive at the scene of a call within four minutes of leaving their station. (That's become an especially important benchmark as open residential floor plans and more combustible household items make fires burn hotter and faster.) Accrediting agencies consider how well fire departments meet that standard of promptness, so it makes sense for cities to plan their infrastructure around achieving those goals. "For a long time, there was just one answer: build a new fire station," Jenkins explains. "That's still going to be a solution sometimes." His own department in Arkansas asked voters in August to fund a new station. "But sometimes improving road infrastructure or moving a fire station to a major arterial can have a small but important impact as well."

That's one reason, in fact, that Jenkins was involved in planning not only the fire department projects, but also the road plans in his city's recent bond question. "Road connectivity will greatly reduce the need to build more fire stations as our city continues to grow," he says.

It's another sign that fire agencies are becoming more deeply enmeshed in aspects of local government many of them used to ignore. In the Charlottesville area, fire departments are playing a critical role in the design of new housing developments, especially the creation of walkable areas with narrow, tree-lined streets and houses clustered closely together. Those designs can make it difficult for fire trucks to get through on neighborhood streets, an issue that has generated plenty of conflict in other places.

But those conflicts can be avoided, says Dan Eggleston, the chief of the Albemarle County Department and president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. "The fire department likes those [walkable] designs if we get in on the early stages of the planning process. We are not opposed to these designs. We have wonderful designs that blend our need for access with the desire for walkable communities."

Installing flat curbs at intersections can help fire engines make sharp turns, and parking restrictions help not only fire trucks, but school buses and trash trucks as well, Eggleston says. Recently, he was involved in the planning of a development that had a grass courtyard instead of a street. That might have prevented fire trucks

from getting to the residences in case of a fire. So they reached a compromise: The developer installed porous pavers that could hold a 100,000-pound ladder truck but still allow grass to grow through them.

Not all departments have been so accommodating. Firefighters in Baltimore, for example, have fought vehemently against proposed bike lanes that, they argue, will not leave enough room for large equipment, such as tiller trucks with outriggers that anchor the trucks when ladders are in use. To make their point, firefighters filmed a video outside the house of a leading bike activist to show the difficulties of using fire equipment on narrow streets. Adding to tensions, cycling advocates complained to the city council that firefighters threatened them at a hearing on the issue. The cyclists ultimately won a court battle that prevented

Baltimore from tearing out a recently installed bike lane.

San Francisco has taken almost an opposite approach to the growing demand for walkable streetscapes: buying smaller fire engines that are better adapted to operate in tighter spaces. These new trucks are narrower, with fewer protruding parts than the fire engines they replaced. They have a smaller turning radius, and they're outfitted with cameras that help avoid crashes with vehicles, cyclists or pedestrians.

In Portland, Ore., Fire Chief Mike Myers makes the case that the fire department ought to be leading the movement toward more walkable neighborhoods. Those environments help improve the health and safety of residents, he says, and they haven't led to any reduction in the fire department's response times.

"Our opinion from the fire service is that vibrant cities don't burn," Myers says. "If we change the vibrancy of an area, then that area won't have a high likelihood of a shooting. That area will not have a high likelihood of a pedestrian accident and will not likely have a fire. That is our goal. And that's where we're putting our money and our attention."

Myers argues that fire departments need to get involved in those problems earlier, because the city can't afford to keep hiring more firefighters and buying more equipment to cover the escalating needs of its growing population.

The Portland Fire Department is currently working with researchers at Harvard University to develop predictive analytics that can tell them where fires are most likely to occur. Meanwhile, each of the city's 31 firehouses is developing plans to address the problems they most commonly face, whether those are wild fires or health problems among homeless people. The idea is to get the fire department to work with other government agencies and nonprofit groups to alleviate those issues. "If we can [do better] at cooperating with multiple bureaus," Myers says, "I'm doing my job as a fire chief by ultimately making sure the call doesn't happen in the first place." **G**

Email [dvock@governing.com](mailto:dvock@governing.com)

*State and local governments spend roughly \$2 billion a year on construction for fire departments.*