

New Boston Fire Department 2015 Accomplishments

TARP Program/Recruit Program – During 2015 the federally funded grant program, TARP, came to an end, however the Recruit Program continues. The primary goal of these programs is to ensure quality emergency medical coverage for New Boston during weekdays when many of our volunteers are out of town. To date these programs have managed to reduce response times by 50%, while increasing the medical staff during the daytime. These programs have reduced stress on our regular members having to leave their jobs for emergency calls. The recruit program members are all volunteers from out of town that have agreed to work (1) 8 hour daytime shift a week to gain experience and promote their career goals. Recruits are now also covering the Town on Saturdays as well.

Operational Information – Our emergency calls were up 1% from 414 calls in 2014 to 418 calls in 2015.

Cadet Program – This program continues to serve the purpose of introducing the fire service to the youth of New Boston and surrounding towns. Presently there are 5 members. It is one of the more successful programs of its type, thanks to the Director, John Jones.

Financial Information - For 2015, we returned over \$6,250 to the general fund from our operational budget,

Staffing – Our roster stands at 48 volunteer members, and 6 recruit members. Our cadet membership is currently at 5. The majority of our membership is very active. During the year we had some members and recruits move on, however we also gained 6 new regular members and 5 recruit members.

We also saw two long time members retire from the Department. Their dedication and commitment to serve the residents of New Boston was excellent. They were Dave Rugg 20+ years of service and Scott Hunter 16+ years of service.

We're very fortunate to have such dedicated people willing to give up their personal time to be part of this organization. Neighbors helping neighbors!

Honor Guard – NBFD is again very fortunate to be one of the few volunteer or career departments to have an Honor Guard. Our guard consists of Commander Brandon Merron, Asst. Commander Gina Catalano, Deputy Chief Rod Towne, Lt. Janet Chamberlain, Lt. Bryan Wells, FF, and FF John Jones

Training – Another year has passed and the Fire Fighters and EMTs of NBFD have been busy training, logging a total of 3,263.5 hours of fire and rescue training. The number of hours spent attending in-house training was 1,539.4 hours. Even though this represents a drop of approximately 650 hours, this still represents a very impressive effort by our members. As you know these hours represent a lot of Wednesday night sessions where our members work together practicing the various skills they will need to safely respond to our neighbors emergencies. I would like to note that Lt Rich Little attended 88 hours of in-house training in 2015, spending more hours on in-house training than any other member, also I should note that the Merron family logged over 230 training hours in 2015.

During 2015 our training program consisted of a variety of subjects including, water supply, Critical decision making, pump operations, self-contained breathing apparatus, Wilderness search and rescue, Fire streams, forest fire control, Ice rescue, chimney fires.

We also had the opportunity to do live fire training in an acquired structure as well as the opportunity to have TJ Chacos of speedway Safety Services come in to train us on modern vehicle rescue techniques

Our members also attended many outside training courses that included subjects like incident command, fire ground safety an survival, and hazardous material awareness. NBFD also had 3 members become NH certified Level One Fire Fighters and 1 EMTA became a Paramedic. Capt. Catalano, Lt Wells and I would like to thank you, the officers, and the members of NBFD for supporting the training program and making 2015 another good year for our training program.

Sincerely
Rodney B. Towne
Deputy Chief of Training

Fire Prevention Report - The Fire Prevention Division had a very active year in 2015.

Gas / Wood stove / Pellet stove / Oil burner inspections = 107

Business inspections = 65

Sprinkler inspections = 39

2015 New Address Assignments = 28

2015 New Homes added with sprinklers = 17

Fire Investigations (3 building fires, 1 trailer fire, 2 vehicle fires, 2 lighting strikes) = 8

Listed below are some examples of the services the Fire Prevention Division is providing to the town:

- New & Existing Business/Residential Inspections
- New Building address assignments for the Town and 911
- Town Buildings and School Inspections
- Car Seat Inspections
- Building / Sprinkler Plan Review
- Fire Investigations
- Assembly Permit Inspections
- Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Inspections
- Day-Care Inspections
- Foster-Care Inspections
- Woodstove/Pellet Stove Inspections
- Gas (propane) Inspections
- Generator Inspections
- Oil Burner Inspections
- Public Education
- Fire Suppression & Emergency Medical Services
- Town-Wide Safety Committee Member
- Miscellaneous Fire Protection Inquiries

Our goal is to provide the best customer service for the residents of New Boston. We work closely with builders, service providers, utility companies and various businesses to accomplish this goal. We strive to increase our customer service in the New Year 2016 and continue to make the town a safer place for all that reside or visit.

I would like to remind you that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors save lives and should be installed throughout your home, especially in sleeping areas. Also don't forget to replace the batteries in your detectors twice a year or consider purchasing new

detectors available with a 10 year battery life span that are maintenance free.

I strongly encourage you to call with any questions you may have regarding how to make your home or business safer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Dubowik, New Boston Fire Prevention Officer

New Member Certifications - The following members attained their FF level one certification in 2015, Chris Day, Greg Tufts, and Bob Yovanov. We had one person achieve their Paramedic certification Rachel Frederickson, Derek Danis became EMR certified. With these accomplishments, NBFD membership has achieved a very high level certification in the areas they work, (Firefighter / EMT / Paramedic).

Executed new contracts with the United States Air Force.

The first was a 5 year lease renewal for the use of the Hilltop Fire Station. The benefits the Town derives from the use of this fire station are both strategic and economically huge. The Fire Department has placed a fire engine and ambulance in this building. This reduces the travel time to emergencies on the east side of town dramatically. It also enables the Fire Department to meet the requirements for home insurance company requirements that homes must be within 5 miles of a fire station to in some cases qualify to be insured. The second benefit this lease agreement provide to the town is a fairly state of the art fire station with a hydrant system, emergency power and all maintenance included in the lease, at no cost to the town.

The second contract executed between the town and the Air Force was the emergency medical services contract.

Cost Reduction/Avoidance Program – It was highlighted in the budget presentation this year, that as a result of implementing the Ambulance Revolving Account (billing for transports), and reorganization of the paid positions in the Fire Department, significant cost savings have been passed onto the tax payers of the Town. Since the ambulance billing program was introduced in 2010, a total savings of \$140K has been removed from the tax burden (expense budget). In addition, \$245K has been removed from the Capital Improvement Program.