



The Extinguisher

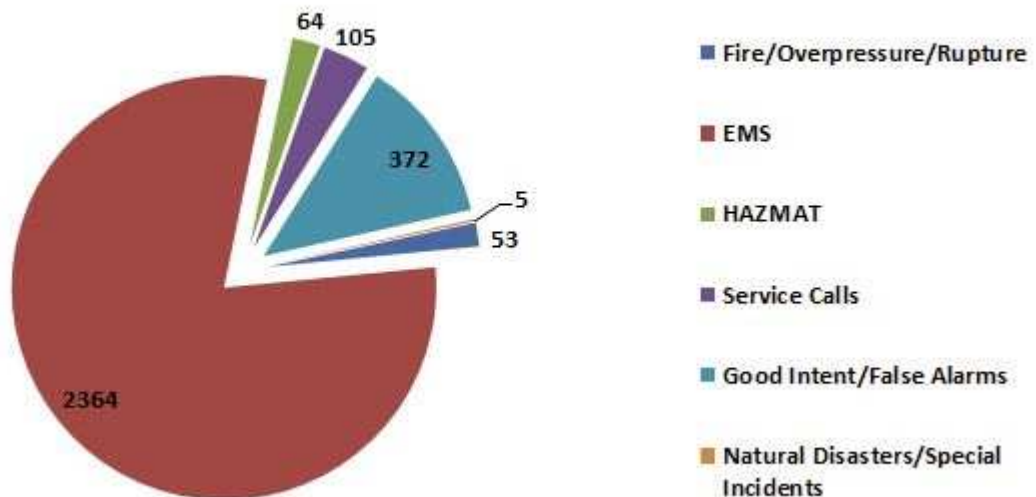


**DEPARTMENT
UPDATES
12/15/23 -1/5/23**

Happy New Year to everyone and I hope the Holiday season was good to all. We finished 2023 with a very busy month of December and closed it out with a structure fire on Brice Circle. Overall, it was again a busy year finishing with 2963 calls for service. Although it was similar to the amount we finished 2022 with, it actually was a significant increase for calls in Holden. In 2022, we provided over 400 mutual aid responses, most of which were to the City of Worcester. In 2023, our mutual aid responses dipped to 290 but the loss of those calls were made up with calls in town and then some. The call breakdowns have not really changed, 80% EMS and 20% Fire. Great job by all department members in responding to the volume and providing exceptional service to the community.

Fire Incident Breakdown by Type 2023

Total Incidents: 2,963



The structure fire at 6 Brice Circle on 12/30 was a great knock down by the initial arriving companies. There was heavy fire from the 2 car garage under on the “D” side extending up the exterior of the building. The quick knock down kept the fire from extending to the upper floors and held it to the garage, basement and exterior wall. The fire investigation ruled out the vehicle that was in the garage as a cause but at this point, the ignition source is still undetermined. Thank you to Group 1 for their quick response and thank you to the off duty and call members who responded from home on a Holiday weekend. We had a great turnout from the department with 4 pieces of apparatus on scene.



Photo Credit: Scott Charbonneau

As we have entered into the season of flu and illness, please remember that if you are sick, stay home and feel better. Firefighting is a contact sport with close communication so passing along the flu, COVID or a respiratory illness is very easy for both your peers and the public at large. If any department member needs to be vaccinated for the Flu or COVID, please see the admin staff to schedule. Please remember if you are an EMS provider, we need you to fill out the emailed vaccination form for DPH reporting. If you have been

vaccinated, fill out that portion of the form and if you do not want or have not been vaccinated, just fill out the declination portion. This is just for reporting only and it does not preclude you from vaccination in the future.

Training

- 1. _Captain Pierce has preliminarily setup a Tactics and Strategy course through the MFA to be hosted either at Fire HQ or close by in Leicester. If interested in this training, please notify him ASAP so he can plan.**

Vehicles

- 1. A3 – Tires replaced at Pete’s Tire Barn in Gardner on 1/5, back in service**
- 2. Tower – Out of service until further notice at the dealer in CT. The swivel of the aerial is in the process of being replaced as it had a hydraulic leak. This is a major repair but it should be returned by next week.**

Personnel

- 1. Adam Roy and Issac Popek will be graduating from the MFA Career Recruit Program on Monday 1/22 at 11:00 a.m. Uniform of the day will be Class A if attending. If you are interested in carpooling from the station, we will be leaving at 9:00 a.m.**

Stations

- 1. New snow shovels and filled salt buckets are postioned at both HQ and Station 2 for any snow events.**