



The Extinguisher



**DEPARTMENT
UPDATES
1/5/24 - 1/19/24**

After the holidays, it is a very slow time for news worthy items. Recently, the Asst. Chief and I took part in a tabletop exercise at Anna Maria College. This exercise was the first step in a full-scale ASHER drill to be held by West Boylston Fire at the Worcester County House of Corrections on 6/10/24. This drill will bring together Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement and School Districts from throughout our area to take part in live role playing scenarios. The building to be used is modeled after a typical school building and will bring some realism to the event. The tabletop drill was very interesting as it allowed us to see where all of the other departments are in their ASHER planning. We will be looking for department members to take part in this drill and will be reaching out once Wbfd lets us know what resources they will need from HFD.

Budget season is rolling along with both the General Fund and Capital budgets submitted. We did take a step back recently as town departments were asked to significantly reduce our Capital requests for FY25. As for our department, we were able to reduce a couple of projects and identified alternate funding streams to move forward with them. This allows our department to have no direct effect of the reduction in Capital funding to this point.

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. The Strategy and Tactics class is scheduled for 5/21/24 from 0800-1700. Register on LMS. The location is Leicester FD HQ. Any questions, please contact Captain Pierce**

Vehicles

- 1. Squad 2 – DPW evaluating an issue with the plow, will be ordering parts.**
- 2. F1 – Battery issue, replaced by DPW.**

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. We have been having heating issues with the boiler in the annex. Please keep an eye on it and if there is a problem, notify the on duty Shift Officer.**
- 2. During snow events, please make every effort to salt the entrances to the stations. After plowing, ice tends to build up around the**

doors and presents a hazard to the public coming to our exterior entrances.

- 3. Please remember to close the overhead doors at both stations during the cold weather. At Fire HQ, it takes quite some time for the radiant heat to recover the bay temps.**