



The Extinguisher



**DEPARTMENT
UPDATES
4/5/24**

It has been a busy start to April so far. Over the first 4 full days of the month, the department responded to 46 calls for service. We have seen the full range of calls from extremely sick patients requiring a high level of care to a vehicle crash with entrapment and finally to a mutual aid structure fire in Paxton. Great work by the department and especially the on duty shifts for handling such a high volume of calls.

We have hired a new fulltime FF/Paramedic for the open position. He is Joseph Lillis from Worcester. Joe comes to the department with EMS and call firefighter experience from both Massachusetts and Connecticut. He is a member of the Niantic CT fire department working as a FF/EMT. He also has experience in MA working for the Lawrence General Hospital EMS system. Currently, he is going through the pre-hire process of medical physical and PAT. We hope to have him on board to start orientation in early May.

On Friday March 22nd, we participated in a joint ASHER (Active Shooter Hostile Event Response) training with the police department at the Holden Chapel School. The training focused on integrating medical and law enforcement teams that would enter a building to care for and extricate victims involved in an active shooter/hostile event. There were a lot of great lessons learned from this day. We anticipate additional joint trainings in the near future. The Commonwealth has adopted NFPA 3000 standards for responding to active shooter/hostile incident. With that said, the expectation has been set that communities shall begin training and pre-planning to respond to and recover from a hostile incident. The Commonwealth has adopted the ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) as its

ASHER framework. ALERRT offers an online training that department members can sign up for through MFA's LMS site. Additionally, there are also 2 day joint police/fire/EMS trainings that include practical scenarios that have begun being offered in Central Mass. There are two courses in our area over the next three weeks, April 18-19 in West Boylston and April 23, 25 and 27 in Sterling. Please reach out to Asst. Chief Montiverdi if interested in attending. Moving forward, we would like to see as many department members trained in ASHER response as possible. We have been fortunate to this point that nothing has happened in town or the surrounding towns. Our goal is to ensure our department members are trained and ready to respond if we ever have such an incident happen in our area.

We are nearing that time again for the Memorial Day Parade. Looking for the Honor Guard and members to drive apparatus. Report time has not been established but we are usually at the station by 10am. Anyone interested, please let me know.

****The Off duty sweatshirt order has been submitted to Mastermans, standby for payment instructions.** As we have sent out in the past, we are taking orders for off-duty embroidered department sweatshirts. We have received the proofs from the vendor and we will be ordering them next week. If interested, please contact Laura prior to Wednesday 3/27 with sizes, color and amount.**

No updates on Cutler Road *Currently there is a sinkhole on Cutler Road just before #50. No apparatus should be crossing this area as it is undermined. For any calls from #50 - #100 use Broad Street to Muschopauge Rd. For #40 or below use the Main Street side.*****

Training/Meetings

- 1. Officers meeting will be held on Thursday 4/11**
- 2. 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**

- 3. Massport will be holding a disaster drill on Wednesday 5/29. The department will be taking part with staffing for E4. EMS credits will be available. We will be looking for interest as we get closer to the date.**

Vehicles

- 1. Engine 1 – We continue to have air issues with the vehicle, working on a fix with DPW with repair anticipated next week. Keep an eye on it for further issues**

Fire Prevention

- 1. Fisher Road – The two 20,000 gallon cisterns are installed and have been tested by the department. They are both completely full and ready for service. We will be training on their operations once the weather is better and travel to that part of Fisher Road has dried out.**

Stations

- 1. Just a reminder, any damage that occurs to the physical stations needs to be reported to the Shift Officer and Chief of Department on the proper incident/accident report form. This allows us to ensure that proper repairs are made.**