



Milton Township Fire Department
P.O. Box 309, 7015 Cairn Hwy.
Kewadin, MI. 49648
(231)-264-6694 phone (231)-264-6100 fax
miltontwpfd@gmail.com

2019 Annual Report

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MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

It is my pleasure to present to you the Milton Township Fire Department's 2019 annual report. On behalf of the officers and firefighters of the department, we thank you for your continued support throughout the year. Our roster is filled with dedicated individuals who are committed to enhancing the safety and the quality of life of our residents and visitors that inhabit Milton Township. This report cannot possibly capture all of the individual efforts throughout the year, but it does represent an overview of the department's accomplishments for 2019.

As you will read, in 2019 the department responded to 158 calls for service which is a 68% increase from the previous year. Service related incidents continue to lead our responses with 73% of the incident volume. Rescue incidents account for 17% and Fire incidents account for 10%.

Our community outreach smoke alarms, knox box, and reflective address signs programs, along with public education events continue to be a big benefit to our community. It is nice to see the community working so hard to prepare for emergencies and participate in these programs that can help save a life and help first responders do their jobs more efficiently.

This year we had a successful bid in purchasing a used pumper tanker from Peninsula Township in Grand Traverse County. This pumper tanker is a 2003 Kenworth and replaces our 1990 Ford tanker. This truck is very similar to our first tanker. The purchase of a used pumper tanker for station 2 will save the tax payers and department a lot of money from having to purchase a new pumper tanker. This project was phase two of reducing the apparatus fleet by selling two trucks and replacing those two with this pumper tanker. By reducing apparatus, we are saving money on insurance, maintenance costs, repair costs, fuel costs, and replacement costs. We are able to accomplish this without it affecting the level of service we provide to our community that the community expects.

Our fire protection classification from ISO has rated our fire department a split classification. If you have a residence five road miles or less from one of our fire stations your insurance rating is a 6. If you live outside of the five road mile radius your insurance rating is a 10. Our department continues to strive at making improvements toward our ISO rating to do all we can to continue to lower our rating and save our taxpayers money. This department strives to provide the best fire protection we can to our community. Please check with your insurance carrier to see if your home owners insurance premium was lowered due to this improvement.

Our staff participated in many community events throughout the year. We participated in the Village Market Community Cash program, We collected money for MDA during dump days in April and August. We participated in Evenings on River street in Elk Rapids to teach and promote fire safety, and held an open house during Halloween. For the past few years, the staff have purchased gifts for children within the community to provide them with a good Christmas. This has been such a rewarding program for the staff to be able help out area children. The staff is very proud to serve and reach out to the community promoting fire safety.

I am very proud of the staff of this department and the time and dedication these fine men and women put into this department. The staff are committed to the departments mission of minimizing loss of life, extinguish fires, promote general fire safety through public education demonstrations, and protect property.

We are proud to be your fire department and we stand ready to serve the community. I look forward to hearing from you if you have any thoughts or ideas on how we can serve you better. Please contact me at 231-264-6694 or at miltontwpfd@gmail.com.

SINCERELY, FIRE CHIEF JEREMY BALL

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Milton Township Fire Department is to minimize loss of life, extinguish fires, promote general fire safety, and protect property under the provisions of Public Act 207.

The members of the Milton Township Fire Department will accomplish our mission through prevention, fire suppression, code enforcement, rescue skills, pre-planning, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to effectively and efficiently utilize all of the necessary resources at our command to provide the highest level of service to our township residents.

Value Principles:

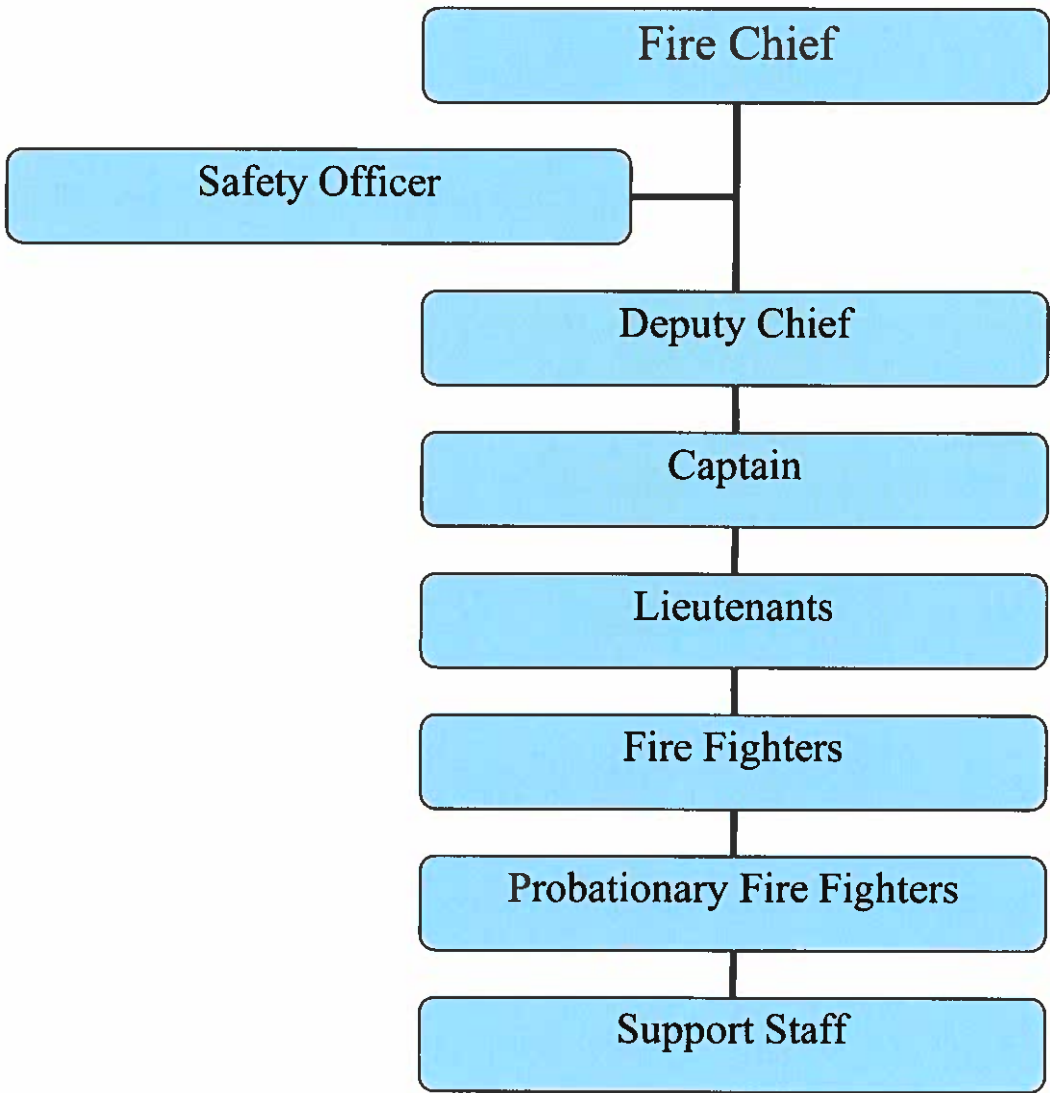
The Milton Township Fire Department believes that pride, the pursuit of excellence, and commitment to public service is important. The department strives through active leadership to develop new knowledge and concepts for a progressive department. The department values a creative and proactive department. The Milton Township Fire Department is professional in all of its actions. Our value to the community will be measured in the type and quality of services provided. It will be the policy of the Milton Township Fire Department to operate with the highest levels of safety for all fire department personnel.

Command Staff Positions:

The Milton Township Fire Department operates with the following Command Staff Positions.

- Fire Chief
- Deputy Chief
- Captain
- Lieutenants - two Lieutenants
- Secretary / Treasurer – This is not a line officer position

FIRE DEPARTMENT HIERARCHY



Fire Apparatus

Station 1 & Admin Hqtrs. – 7015 Cairn Hwy. established in 1982



9920 - 2017 Spartan Rescue Pumper

1500 gallon per minute pump, 1000 gallon water tank. 30 gallons Class A / B foam tank. 4 SCBA, Gas Monitor, Thermal Imaging camera, LED light tower, Scene Lighting, Vent saw, Chain saw, deck gun, full compliment of rescue extrication equipment. Positive pressure fan, exhaust fan, 800 ft. of large diameter hose, 1,350 ft of 2.5 hose, 800 ft of 1.75 hose.

This unit responds first out on all fires and vehicle accidents.



9930 - 2010 Kenworth Tanker

2300 gallon water tank, 2 – 2500 gallon drop tanks, 2 – Zico power drop tank holders, Class A / B foam, a portable pump and miscellaneous other fire fighting equipment.

***This unit responds to all incidents where water supply will be needed. ***



9941 - 2008 Ford F350 – Utility

This unit serves as a utility vehicle. This unit responds to a variety of incidents including Water / Ice rescue calls, EMS assists, tree down and line down calls. Serves as a rehab unit, traffic control unit, incident command unit during long incidents. Carries a wide variety of equipment.

Fire Apparatus cont.

Station 1 cont.



9950 - 2006 Ford F550 4x4 Mini Pumper

500 gallon per minute pump, 200 gallon water tank, 20 gallon Class A / B foam tank, Compressed Air Foam System (CAFFS), 5000 watt Generator, Wild Land Interface equipment, 600 feet of 1 inch forestry hose, 200 ft. of booster hose, 500 ft. of 1.75 inch fire hose, 350 ft. of 2.5 fire hose. This unit has a pump and roll feature.

****This unit responds first out on grass / brush fires, trees down, lines down, hauls the ATV, as well as a variety of other incidents.**** .



9953 - 2009 Polaris ATV

95 gallon per minute pump, 75 gallon water tank, Class A / B foam, 220 feet of 1 inch forestry hose, has pump & roll capabilities. This unit also carries a stokes basket to transport patients for EMS when they are in remote areas. This unit also carries personnel to areas where apparatus cannot get too.



9921 - 1993 Pierce International Pumper

1250 gallon per minute pump, 500 gallon water tank, 12 gallon Class A / B foam tank, 4 – SCBA’S, ventilation equipment, Gas Monitor, Thermal Imaging Camera, and various tools and equipment. 900 feet of 4 inch supply hose, 850 feet of 2.5 inch fire hose, 750 feet of 1.75 inch fire hose.



9931 - 2003 Kenworth Pumper / Tanker

1000 gpm pump, 2000 gallon tank. 1 – 2500 gallon drop tank. 200 ft of 1.75 hose, 200 ft of 2.5 hose. various other equipment.



9952 - 1974 Chevy ¾ ton 4x4 Water Point Truck

1400 gallon per minute pump. This unit is the water supply truck that sets up at or near lakes, dry hydrants and underground tanks to draft water to fill tankers. This unit responds to structure fires and a variety of other equipment. This unit does respond to mutual aid areas to fill tankers when needed.



NEW Pumper Tanker – November 2019

A unique opportunity presented itself to us this fall. The Peninsula Township Fire Department was selling a 2003 Kenworth Pumper Tanker. The Chief and some apparatus committee members went to Peninsula's fire department to view and look over the apparatus. This tanker is very similar to the 2010 Kenworth Tanker in service at station 1. The department submitted a bid. This truck replaces our 1990 Ford Tanker. The new tanker holds 2000 gallons of water, has a 1000 gallon a minute pump which can serve the department as another fire suppression vehicle when the need arises. The tanker has enough compartment space to carry various types of equipment. The members of the department are extremely excited about this truck. This will add another dimension to the operations of the department and save the taxpayers a tremendous amount of money from us having to purchase a new truck.

MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS

Annual Tasks:

- Annual Maintenance and DOT inspections on all apparatus. We also have six month check on fluids and greasing of fittings. Fick and Sons performs all our maintenance and repairs.
- Northwest Fire conducted annual maintenance checks on all of the departments fire extinguishers that are housed on apparatus and at each of the stations.
- Hose and Ladder testing was performed by Firecatt. This is the fifth year in a row that we have used them. They tested over 10,000 feet of hose for the department. We had 2 lengths of 2.5 hose and 2 lengths of 1.75 hose fail testing. They tested 120 feet of ladders.
- CSI performed pump maintenance and testing of five apparatus.
- First Due completed annual tool maintenance on all of our extrication rescue equipment.
- Premier Safety provided annual flow testing to all self- contained breathing apparatus and masks.
- First Due hydro tested several air bottles this year.
- First Due provided annual calibration to two gas monitors.
- Annual Gear inspections were performed by our safety officer.
- Annual maintenance on heating and cooling systems at both stations.

9920 – 2017 Spartan Rescue Engine:

- door repair, door light outlet covers, shelving install.
- Install 800 portable radio and charger
- Recall repair for rear brake lights
- Warranty – main seal and rear seal repair
- Ladder switch door alarm

9921 – 1993 Pierce International Engine:

- Pump repairs- drain valves, front intake valve, piping, install air valves for intakes, deck gun valve work.
- Air tank

9930 – 2010 Kenworth Tanker:

- Apparatus Tag
- Overheating issue
- Coolant leak and rear wheel seal
- Alternator & brake chamber
- AC compressor leak
- Rear tank level light replaced
- Missing lug nut covers – ones ordered and replaced

9931 – 2002 Kenworth Tanker:

- New graphics
- Minor repairs
- New tires – NFPA and OSHA requirement
- Radio antenna installation
- Install of portable radios and chargers
- Intake pump valves

9931 – 1990 Ford Tanker (retired):

- Carburetor work
- Drop tank audible alarm mechanism defective and replaced

9941 – 2008 Ford E350 Utility Vehicle:

- Install portable radios and chargers
- Oil leak repair
- Install new tires – NFPA and OSHA requirement
- Windshield washer pump

MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS CONT.

9950 – 2006 Ford F550 Mini Pumper:

- Oil leak repair
- Install new rear tires
- Repair to scene lights
- Repair to winch cables
- Second oil leak repair
- Telescopic light repair
- Major pump repairs –
- Winch cable replaced from cable being broken

9951 – 2006 Ford F550 Mini Pumper:

- EGR cooler
- Oil leak repair
- Coolant cap, turbo boot repair
- Telescoping light replacement
-

9952 – 1974 Chevy Water Point:

- Battery tender for vehicle batteries
- Battery switch repair
- Crank care leak

Station 1:

- Replaced well pump
- Garage Door #2 damaged and repaired
- Copier maintenance performed
- Light bulbs replaced in meeting room lights

Station 2:

- Gear room work
- Generator – cam sensor and low fuel pressure sensor were replaced

MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS CONT.

Other Maintenance Issues:

- Pager belt clip
- Speaker mic to 800 portable radio
- Power strip station 2
- Batteries TK-2312 portable radios
- Tire gauge
- Bayonet gauge
- Straight tire gauge
- Battery tender for atv
- Bulbs for running lights for apparatus
- Spark plug wrenches for chain saws
- Repair to chain saw on 9941 – tension kit
- LZ light replacement x 3
- SCBA #10 – sensor
- SCBA #6 – sensor
- DEF fluid for 9920
- Lapel mic for 9920 portable radio
- Outlet covers for 9920 and 9931
- Helmet replacement for defective helmet
- Low level strainer replacement
- Hydro test to 5 air bottles
- Chaps repair to 9951 chain saw chaps
- SCBA #6 packing, seat and flow test
- Flow test pack #7 and #8 after electronic repairs
- Hydro test to RIT pack air bottle
- Hydro test to 4 air bottles
- Pager repair
- Tac stick ordered to replace defective one
- Battery charger replacement from battery operated chain saw
- Chain saw bar repaired from 9941

PERSONNEL - 2019- 15 TOTAL

The department currently has a roster of 15 personnel. There is 11 certified Fire fighter's, 2 support staff, and 2 probationary fire fighters.

Andrea Albert	Fire Fighter Secretary	5 years of service	FFII, Haz Ops, Ext
Jeremy Ball	Fire Chief	16 years of service	FFII, FO III, Haz Ops, Ext
Kevin Ball	Lieutenant #1	8 years of service	FF I, Haz Aw, Ext
Larry Ball	Fire Fighter	9 years of service	FF II, FO III, Haz Ops, Ext
Dan Butler	Deputy Chief	18 years of service	FF II, FO II, Haz Ops, Ext
Jeff Dawson	Support Staff	4 years of service	
Brenton Evans	Probationary FF	2 years of service	
Tony Hutchcraft	Fire Fighter	7 years of service	FF II, Haz Ops, Ext
Matt Koeplin	Fire Fighter	6 years of service	FF II, Haz Ops, Ext
Nate McGuire	Probationary FF	1 year of service	
Mike Tilley	Lieutenant #2	10 years of service	FF II, Haz Ops, Ext
Tim Tilley	Captain	12 years of service	FF I, Haz Aw, Ext
Phillip Vandenberg	Fire Fighter	8 years of service	FF II, Haz Ops, Ext
Justin Walkowiak	Fire Fighter	6 years of service	FFII, Haz Ops, Ext
Toby Way	Support Staff	7 years of service	Pump Ops, Haz Aw

KEY:	FF I - Fire fighter one	FF II - Fire fighter two	FO I - Fire officer one
	FOII - Fire officer two	FOIII - Fire officer three	CO – Company Officer,
	Haz Aw – Hazmat Awareness	Haz Ops – Hazmat Operations	Ext – Extrication certified

Fire fighting Experience Level of Staff Members

Total 100%:	less than one year experience:	1 member	= 6%
	1 – 5 years experience:	3 members	= 20%
	6 – 10 years experience:	8 members	= 53%
	11 – 20 years experience:	3 members	= 20%
	21 – on up years experience:	0 members	=

Current Staff Age Range

20 and Under:	0	20-29:	2	30-39:	3
40-49:	6	50-59:	2	60 and Over:	2

Fire Training

In 2016 we modified our training policy and converted our training meetings over to training hours. Prior to 2016, we required a member to attend a minimum of 18 trainings per year to remain in good standing. We were finding that some members wouldn't attend the training due to work related issues or family issues thus the member wouldn't receive any kind of training or foster any teamwork. We now require a minimum of 35 training hours per year to remain in good standing with the department.

Since we have converted to training hours, we have seen an increase in staff attend meetings and have to leave early or attend meetings late after work which prior to 2016 those members wouldn't show up at all. The staff have really benefited from the training hours conversion and fosters more teamwork, staff are more knowledgeable and hone their skills more by being in attendance even if they can't be there for the full training.

Below is a breakdown of department hours for the year:

2019

Total Training Hours:	747.5 hours
Classes:	94.5 hours
Meetings:	252 hours
Maintenance:	327.5 hours
Dept. Details:	311.5
Admin Hours:	786.5 hours
Total Hours:	2,522.50 hrs

2018

Total Training Hours:	856 hours
Classes:	91 hours
Meetings:	228 hours
Maintenance:	339 hours
Dept. Details:	468.5 hours
Admin Hours:	624 hours
Total Hours:	2,581.50 hrs

There were 34 inner department training nights. 5 Mutual Aid training nights with other departments. We conducted 1 make up training during the month of December for those members that were short on hours. There was a total of 43 nights of training for the year.

With a slight decrease in staffing, our total hour of training were down this year as compared to 2019 numbers. Class room hours were slightly up. There were more meetings conducted this year than in 2018. Maintenance hours were slightly lower, and department details were significantly down this past year due to members lack of time to work on details. Admin hours were way up this year and seem to continue to increase year after year with all that's required.

This years training consisted of several topics, most of which are mandated annually. We had several pump ops drills, chain saw operations, ladders, ventilation, wildland, search and rescue, rapid intervention, ropes and knots, several trainings with scba use, thermal imaging, gas detector use, monthly rescue training of extrication, ice rescue, and a few mutual aid and automatic aid trainings with Elk Rapids and Torch Lake Townships. We also conducted fit testing, hazcom, hazmat, and blood borne pathogens training. Several other trainings conducted throughout the year.

Rescue Training: This year we trained on various techniques for removing parts of vehicles from patients that were trapped inside. We trained on stabilizing the vehicles, prepping the vehicle cutting seatbelts, air bags if needed, battery cables. We performed various door removals, roof removals, roof flops including a new technique called the Tennessee twist which can be performed with limited personnel. We completed various dash lifts and dash rolls.

Department Programs

Knox Box Program

The department started this program in 2014. The Knox Rapid Entry System and Knox HomeBox provides fire department entry to a home or business in an emergency. With one master key, the department can gain access. The Knox System includes UL listed lock boxes. Property owners can store entrance keys, access cards, and floor plans in a high security Knox Box Key box mounted near the building entrance. Please check out the website at www.knoxbox.com

Our department uses the Key Secure, master key security system to control the Knox Master Key. This provides accountability with an audit trail.

With the Knox System there is no waiting for a property owner to unlock the door in the middle of the night, and no forcing the door open to gain entry. The Knox Rapid Entry System reduces response time, property damage, and liability for lost keys.

Below is a list of participants within the township:

Commercial Business - 4 in use

Milton Township Hall
Historic Milton Township Hall
Torch River Party Store
Fabiano's on the River

Residential Use – 9 in use

3 – Homes on Juniper Drive	1 – Home East Elk Lake Drive
1 – Home on Fairlane Drive	1 – Home on North West Torch Lake Drive
1 – Home on Elk Tip Drive	1 – Home on South West Torch Lake Drive
1 – Home on Morlen Drive.	

Smoke Alarm Program

In 2010, there were 3,120 fire deaths in the United States. The department has a goal of ensuring that each and every home within Milton Township has at least 2 working smoke alarms. We are also encouraging smoke alarms installed on each level of every home and installed in each sleeping area of each home.

The department will provide up to 3 smoke alarms to anyone within the township in need of them. We want to make sure that each home has working smoke alarms. Fire fighters will come out to your home at no cost to the home owner and install or replace alarms.

This year we provided 32 alarms to 12 homes within the Township. Since the inception of this program in 2011 we have provided a total of 106 smoke alarms to 44 homes within the Township.

Please contact the department or visit our website at miltontownship.org for more information.

Department Programs cont.

Reflective “911” Address Sign Program

“We can’t help you... if we can’t FIND you!”

Every second counts during a fire, police or medical emergency. Valuable time can be lost if your house number is not clearly posted where emergency responders can see it. Police officers, Fire fighters, and EMS responders can’t provide lifesaving services to you and your family if they cannot find your house. The Department is offering to provide you with or install a highly-visible reflective sign in order for responders to locate your residence, potentially saving time....and lives!

The department provided 21 signs to residents for 2019. Since the program’s inception in 2016 we have now provided a total of 79 signs to residents. Our goal is quite simple, have each and every property with an address in our Township have a reflective address sign.

Fire fighter’s Association

This year our Association President is Larry Ball, Vice President is Jeff Dawson and Secretary is Andrea Albert.

In February we held our annual Awards Dinner at T.J. Charlies in Elk Rapids.

April and August we held our Fill the Boot campaign for Muscular Dystrophy during the Township’s junk day collections. We raised \$1,411.92 for the year. We have raised \$19,213.66 since 2002.

We participated two times during the Evenings on River street in Elk Rapids, providing a fire truck for viewing and discussing fire safety with the public and giving out fire prevention information and the kids would receive some badges, pencils, and coloring books promoting fire safety. We were also active in recruitment of potential members.

This was the fifth year that the membership purchased Christmas gifts for a family in need that lives within our township. The membership provided gifts to two little boys this year. a little boy and little girl this Christmas. We delivered the gifts with help from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Our Halloween Open House drew in 90 visitors to the department.

July we provided a safety stand by for the Torch Lake Fire Works during the 4th of July Holiday.

August we participated in the Harbor Days parade, water ball contest and assisted Elk Rapids FD with stand by for the fire works.

Equipment Committee

We have a three member committee that researches potential equipment purchases, gathers bids, and schedules demonstrations when needed. The committee reports its findings to the Fire Chief. The committee will make some purchases with approval from the Fire Chief.

The following equipment was purchased this budget year:

800 mhz portable radio	6 – Fire Helmets
6 – sets of Wildland / Rescue Fire Gear	Battery operated cutter for extrication
Piercing Nozzle	Blitzforce Nozzle
Roof Ladder safety step	1 – pair of boots
6 – pair of suppression gloves	3 – rescue wrench
2 – LZ lights	6 – hose strap packs
Wedges	3 – 2.5 male fittings
2 – radio straps	1 – case of flares
3 – extrication gloves	3 – voice amplifier for scba masks
Chrome elbow fittings	1 – binoculars
Maintenance cleaning supplies	Training rope
Material for training facility	Foam
3 helmet lights	Absorbent pads
Accountability tags	Occupancy tags
Office supplies	Fire prevention info
Ear plugs	Various batteries for equipment
First aid kit supplies	Light bulbs for stations
Desk for Station two dispatch area	Step Ladder Sta 2
6 – air bottles	Battery chargers one for each station
Garden Hose Nozzles for station reels	Hand cart for atv trailer to navigation
2.5 hose for new pumper	5 – spanner wrenches
Ropes for training	Laptop

Items for consideration for 2020.

- Portable generator for station 1
- Water softener station 1
- Washing machine for turn out gear station 2
- Nozzles for 9920, 9921
- 800 mhz portable radios
- Wildland / Rescue gear

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Our equipment committee worked hard all year to research potential new equipment and make purchasing recommendations.
- This year was our first year of staff participating in MERS retirement program. This was financial benefit earned by meeting requirements for training and incident responses. All conditions had to be met in order to receive benefit. This year we had 11 members eligible and only 5 members qualified.
- Mutual of Understanding Agreement was signed between the department and the Antrim County Sheriff's Office to allow the Sheriff Department to store a boat and various equipment along with the speed trailer in one bay of station two. In return the Sheriff office would pay half of the utilities on an annual basis.
- The old Miller road station was vacated by the fire department and sheriff department and turned back over to the owner of the property.
- We responded to a mudslide that covered a portion of North West Torch Lake Drive north of Campbell road during the early spring time. We closed off the road and waited for road commission to clear the debris from the roadway. First time in department history that we are aware of, responding to such a call.
- We were able to take part in a program offered by the Armed Forces Benefit program. The program they provide is a life insurance plan, death benefit for first responders.
- With fires burning hotter and giving off cancer causing contaminants, we have embarked on providing the staff with best practices to prevent fire fighter cancer.
- NFPA and OSHA have strict regulations on PPE and have stated that all PPE has a life span of 10 years and needs to be replaced. This year we started the process of replacing our helmets.
- Updated our hiring policy and forms.
- Acquired one new member this year.
- Acquired permission from Land Conservancy and Township for training purposes at Maplehurst property.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

- Working on addressing marijuana issues that could affect the fire department with the new laws that are in effect legalizing marijuana.
- Established Station 2 as a convenience shelter with the County for the public to come to in an event of natural disaster.
- Chief met with Risk Management for site review of department operations in effort to minimize liability risks. The Department did quite well and needed few more policies to be put into place.
- Chief conducted occupancy reviews for both stations with regards to the amount of people that could be at the station.
- Annual background checks were performed on all staff. This will be an annual event.
- Two members took part in a County wide active shooter exercise at Central Lake High School.
- Chief continues to overhaul and work on department records.
- Revisions to policies and procedures.
- Conducted training at the new Fire Training Facility in Elk Rapids.
- Started working on Phelps road underground tank to get that operational.
- Chief surveyed Ridge Lane in Weathertop subdivision and Elk Tip Drive off Cherry ave. at the request of the Planning Commission.
- The County is looking at providing 800 mhz mobile radios to each fire apparatus within the County. This radio system would greatly improve radio communications. This system is maintained by the State of Michigan and also would bring all the County agencies into communication operability amongst the region and state in case of natural disasters.

Recognition Awards

Fire Fighter of the Year:	Deputy Chief Dan Butler
10 Year Service Pin:	Lieutenant Mike Tilley
Most Trainings Hours:	Dan Butler – 79.5 hours Jeremy Ball – 77.5 hours Jeff Dawson – 73.5 hours
Most Runs Made:	Toby Way - 110 calls Jeremy Ball – 105 calls Dan Butler – 84 calls

Grants

This year we applied for several grant opportunities that were out there. Grants are so competitive and this year we were only successful in receiving the DNR 50/50 grant. This award is for the purchase of Wildland / Rescue gear and safety goggles. Our award is for the amount of \$2,886.00

This was our 17th grant award since 2001. We have received a total of \$157,294 in grant awards since 2001. These grant awards have provided some great equipment to our department that has helped us provide a better service to our community and save tax payers money.

We will continue to pursue grant requests as they become available to continue to strive to save money.

Submitted a joint grant with Elk Rapids Fire Department on obtaining a new cascade system for refilling air bottles.

MUTUAL AID

Our agency provides mutual aid and automatic aid services to Elk Rapids Township Fire Department, Torch Lake Township Fire Department, South Torch Lake Fire Department, Clearwater Township Fire Department in Kalkaska County.

We receive mutual aid and automatic aid from Elk Rapids Township Fire Department and Torch Lake Township Fire Department. We occasionally will receive aid from South Torch Lake Fire Department and Clearwater Township Fire Department.

With the shortage of personnel for many departments during the daytime, we have entered specific mutual aid agreements with regards to vehicle accidents. If we are providing the aid we send an engine and if agencies are providing aid to us they send an engine.

We have in place an automatic aid agreement with Torch Lake Township to be simulcast to all vehicle accidents with known or unknown entrapments to assist with extrication duties. We will assist in covering the entire portion of Torch Lake Township.

We have an automatic aid agreement with Elk Rapids and Torch Lake Townships for Structure Fire responses within Elk Rapids, Milton and Torch Lake Townships. This ensures a 3 station response to all structure fires that occur within the 3 Townships.

We also have in place a mutual aid agreement with the Antrim County Emergency Services. This agreement is between all Fire agencies within the County.

The Fire Chiefs from Milton, Elk Rapids, and Torch Lake continue to meet a few times per year to strive to find ways for the three departments to continue to work together, interoperate more, reduce duplicated services and be more proficient. The three departments have adapted various ways to meet these goals.



ISO collects information on municipal fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. In each of those communities, ISO analyzes data such as response times, available water supply, man power, equipment, department records, number of stations in comparison to response area , and the different types of apparatus. They then assign a Public Protection Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire suppression program doesn't meet ISO's minimum criteria. The number rating system is used by most insurance companies to determine rates charged to homeowners based upon the community they live in.

Our ISO test was in the fall of 2009 and was revisited in 2017. Our ISO rating is called a split classification. This means that any home or building that is outside five road miles of a fire station is a 10 classification. Any home or building within five road miles of a fire station has a classification of a 6 rating.

ISO looks at a four areas when calculating scores to come up with the final overall rating. First area is to determine a departments ability to provide adequate water supply. A department must be capable of flowing a minimum of 250 gallons per minute upon arrival uninterrupted for a duration of 2 hours this accounts for 40% of the overall score. They also look at the Communications Center and evaluates how a department is dispatched for emergencies, this accounts for 10% of the overall score. Finally, they look at the fire department as a whole with a specific focus on records of the department, from response times, training records, maintenance records, apparatus, and equipment. Each section is evaluated on a point system.

The Fire Chief processed several requests from insurance companies and homeowners this year inquiring what the fire protection classification was. Many homeowners were had premiums up for renewal.

The Fire Chief worked with various property owners that have viable water points for fire department use to give the fire department authorization to use these water points. ISO can certify these locations for active water points with written authorization forms on file.

The Fire Chief is working on automatic aid agreements with neighboring Townships. Having automatic aid agreements on file with ISO may help our fire protection classification rating. Which in turn will save taxpayers money on their premimums.

Contact your insurance company and see if you may benefit from our improved Fire Protection Classification. If your insurance company needs any documentation supporting or improved rating please have them contact the Fire Chief via email at miltontwpfd@gmail.com or call 231-264-6694.

Recruitment & Retention

Nationally the paid on call fire departments and volunteer departments continue to struggle with membership. We are seeing this in our Township. Time is the most critical element that people struggle with. There is just not enough time to volunteer with people having to work outside the Township, raising a family, might have to work two jobs, and or both spouses are working outside the home. Our Township is a unique one we have lots of rural space where there are several working farms, and several seasonal homes that are nestled on the shores of the boarding waters. There is not many businesses within the Township that bring workers in to possibly join the department.

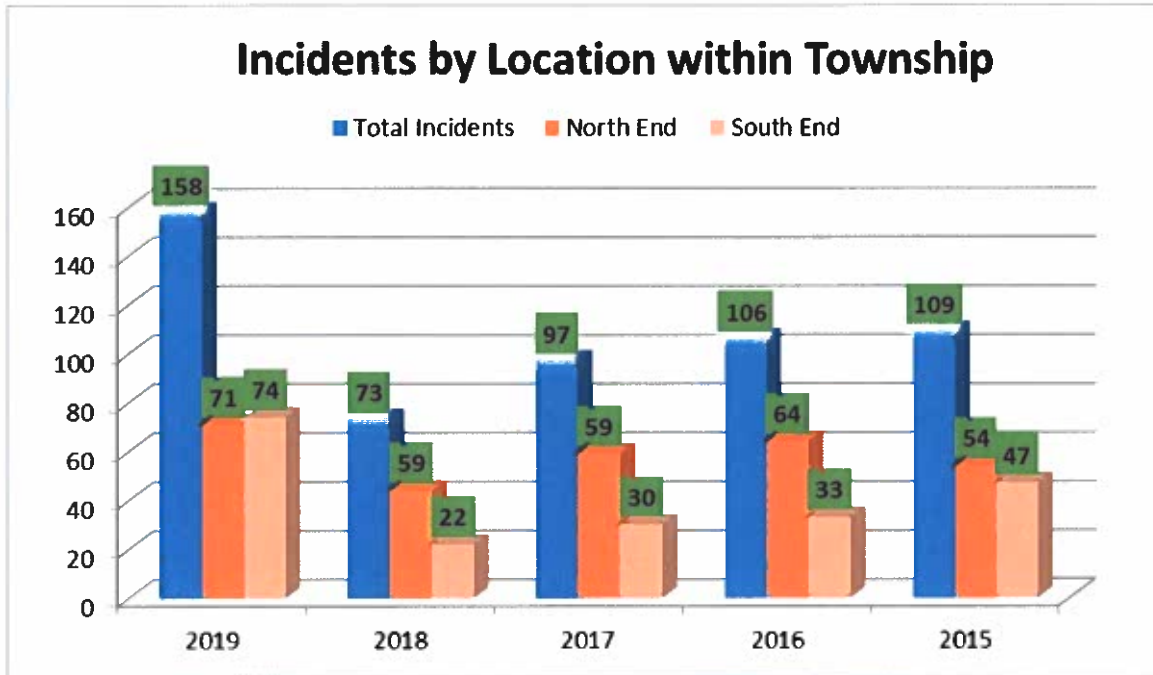
Recruitment is always an ongoing process to gain and retain members of the fire department. We will continue to work within the school system, hold open houses, holding public education days, attend association meetings, use social media, and anything else we can do to attract members to serve the community.

We have to also keep in mind that as we struggle to attract new members, we need to remember that the current membership continues to age. We need to do our best to retain these members as well for as long as we can.

This was the first year that qualifying staff received the MERS benefit. This is a great benefit provided by the Township for our staff that meet the certification, training hours, and run percentage on an annual basis.

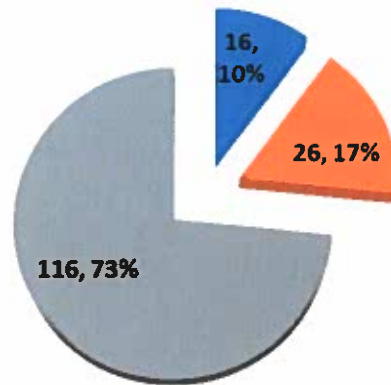
State & Federal Laws are ever changing, making it very difficult to retain members. We are going to need to continue to recruit members, but also look at staffing levels to possibly have hired personnel staffing the station, especially during the daytime hours where our call volume is quite high

STATISTICS



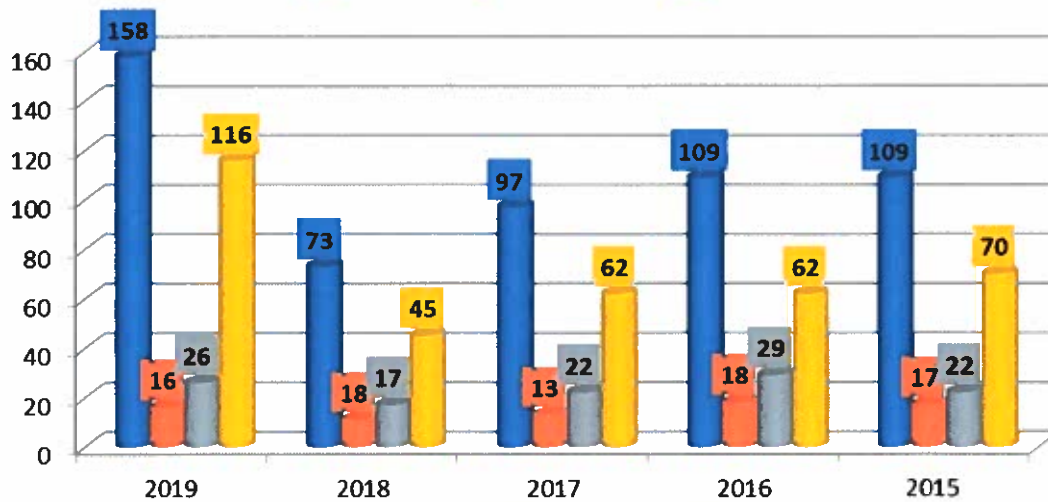
Service Breakdown by Percentage

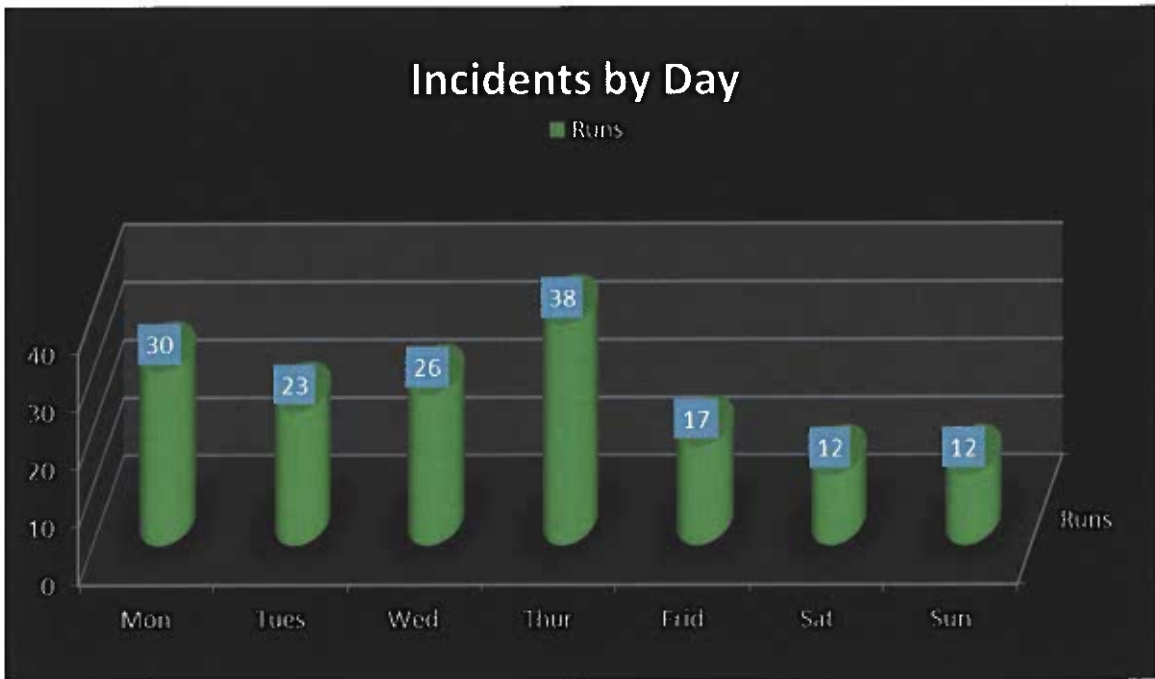
■ Fire ■ Rescue ■ Service



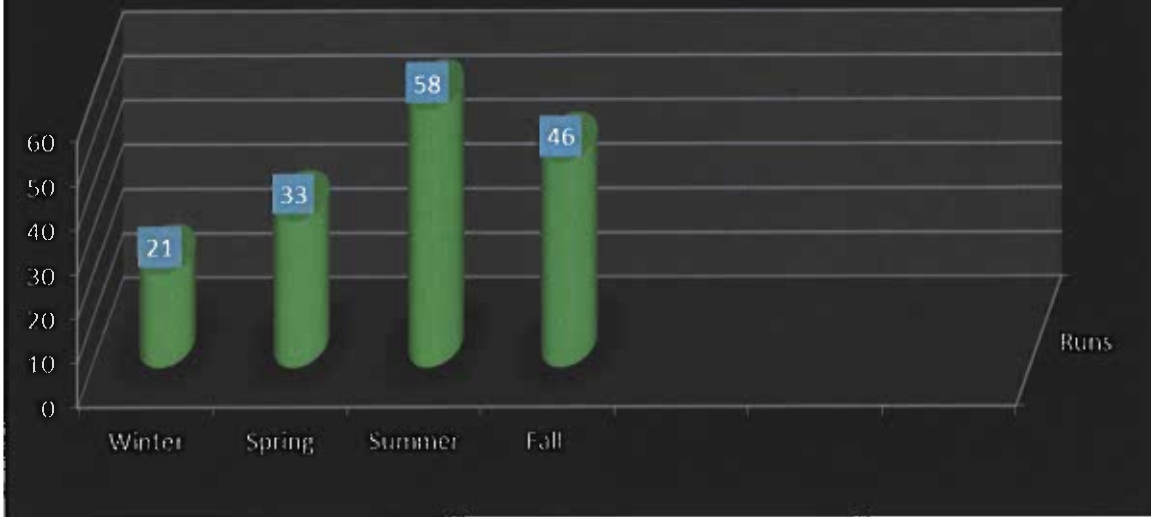
Fire Incident Breakdown

■ Total Runs ■ Fire ■ Rescue ■ Service



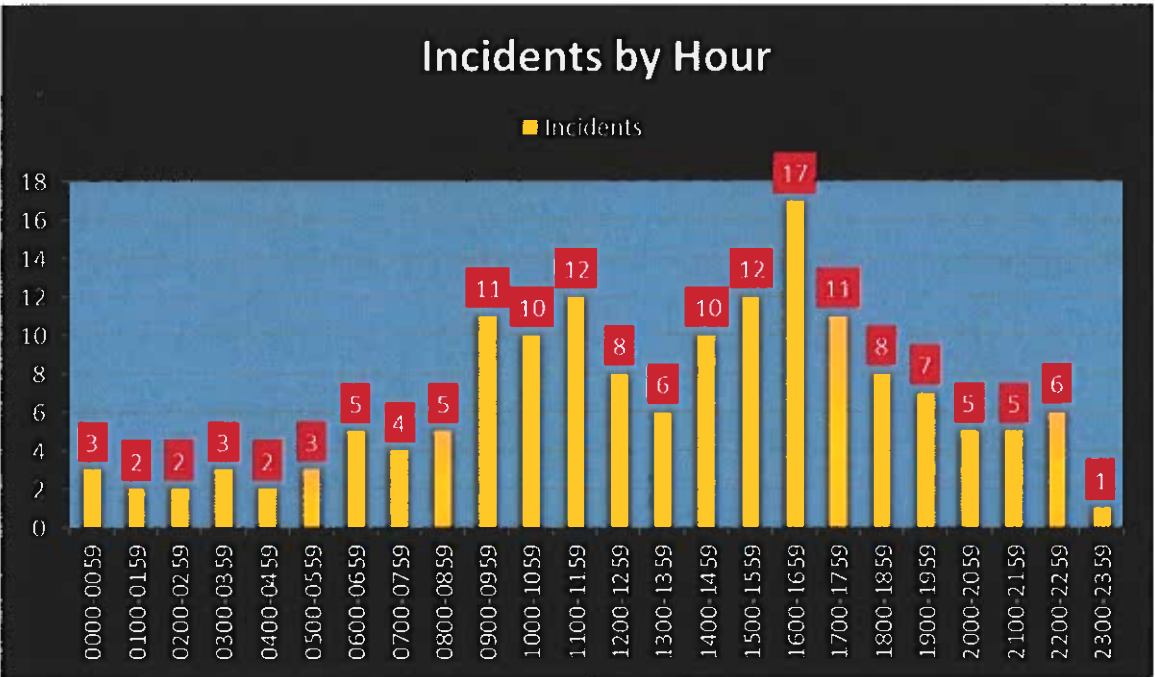
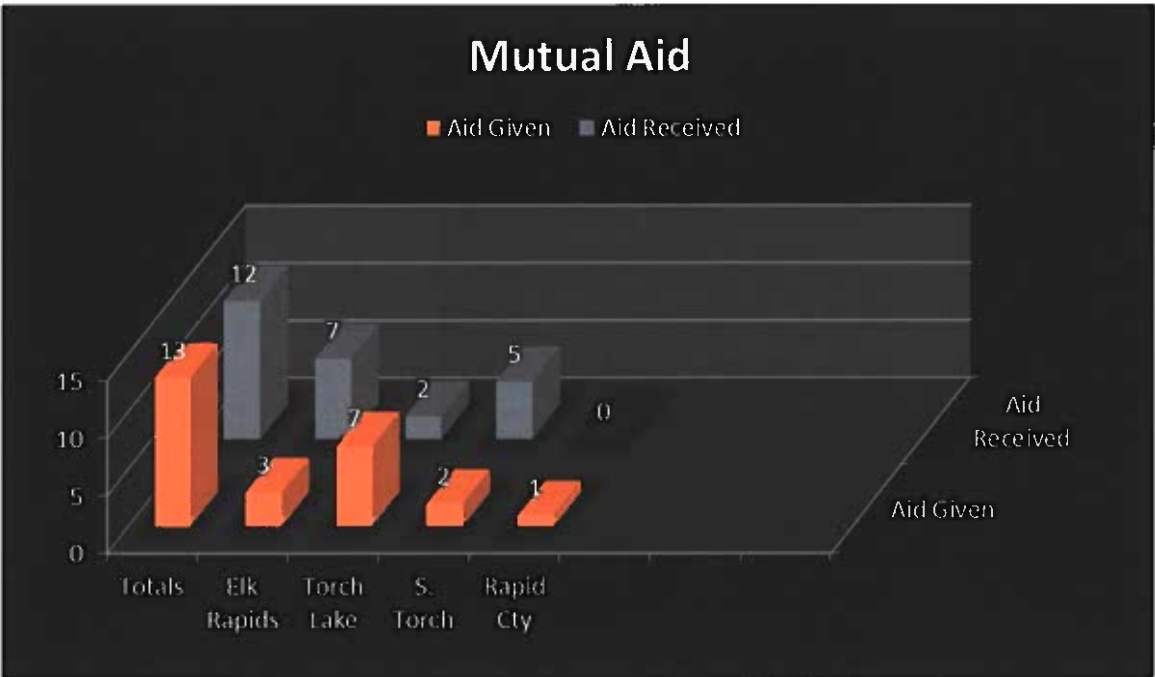


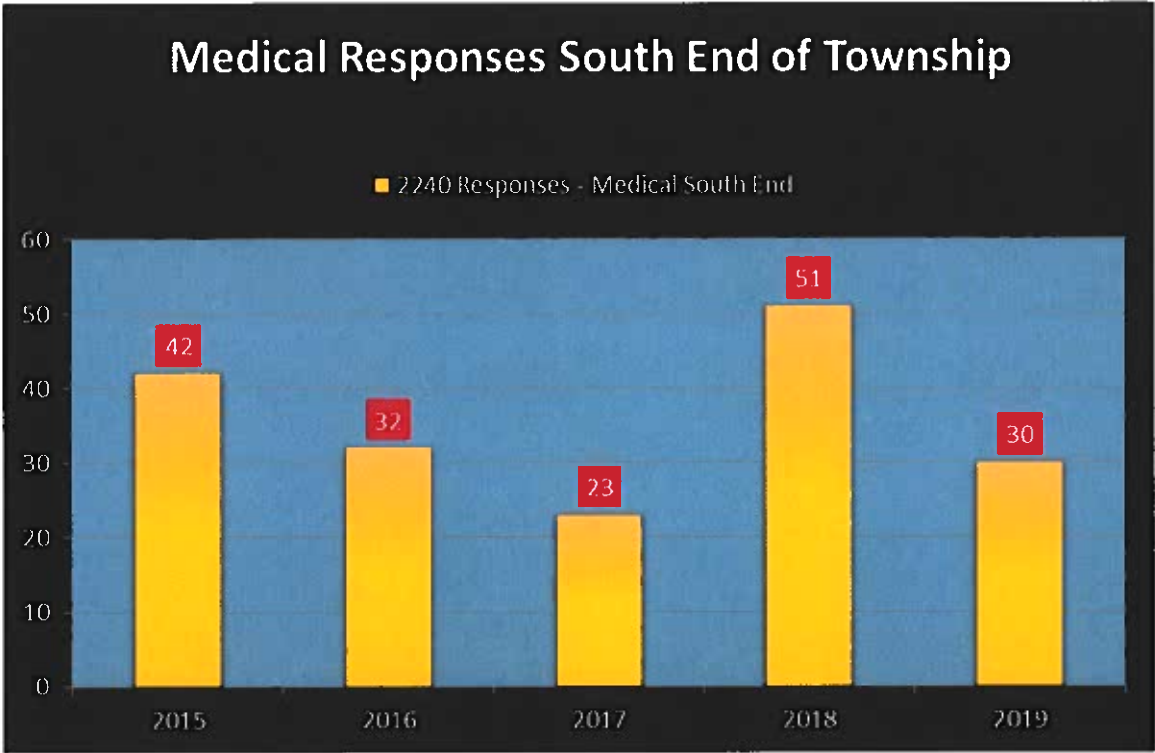
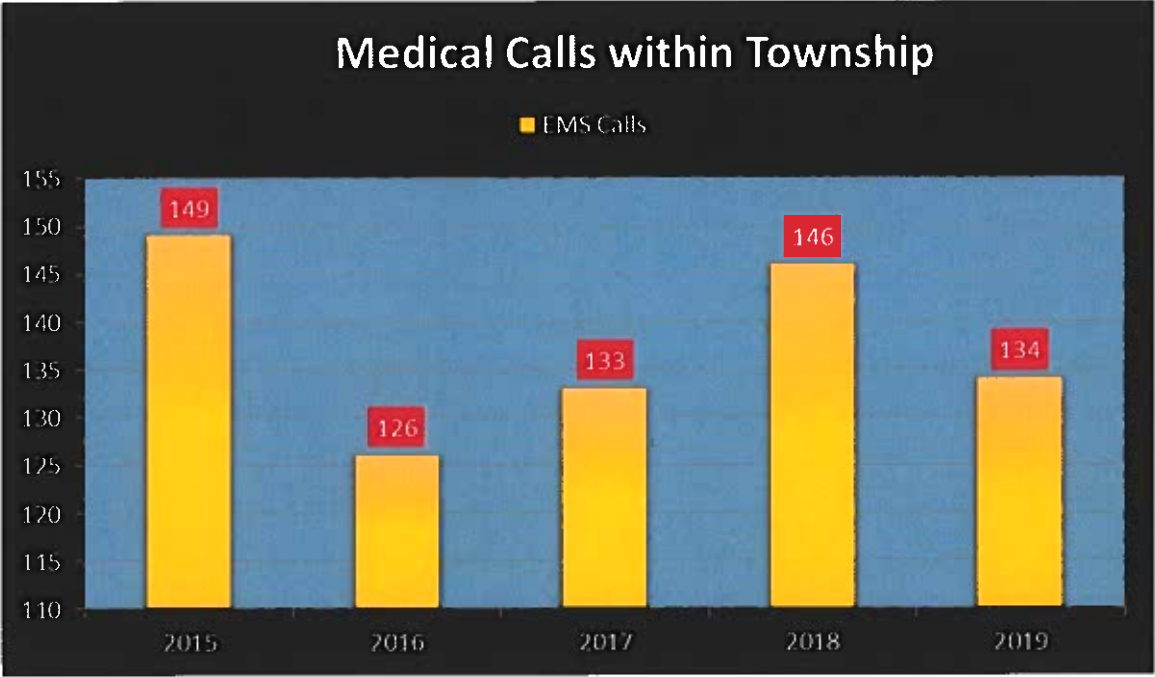
Incidents by Season



Incidents by Time of Day







Annual Report Stats - Comparison by Year

	2019	2018								Totals
Total Call Responses:	158	73								231
Morning Calls (6a-12p)	47	19								66
Day Calls (12p-6p)	64	19								83
Night Calls (6p-12a)	32	25								57
Overnight Calls (12a-6a)	15	10								25
Fire	16	11								27
Rescue	26	17								43
Service	116	45								161
Monday Calls	30	2								32
Tuesday Calls	23	17								40
Wednesday Calls	26	4								30
Thursday Calls	38	16								54
Friday Calls	17	16								33
Saturday Calls	12	11								23
Sunday Calls	12	9								21
January Calls	7	2								9
February Calls	10	2								12
March Calls	8	2								10
April Calls	13	1								14
May Calls	12	8								20
June Calls	13	0								13
July Calls	26	12								38
August Calls	19	27								46
September Calls	14	6								20
October Calls	27	1								28
November Calls	5	2								7
December Calls	4	6								10

										Totals
North End of Township	71	44								115
South End of Township	74	22								96
Total Calls within Township	145	66								211
Mutual Aid Responses Given	13	7								20
Elk Rapids	3	0								3
Torch Lake	7	4								11
South Torch Lake	2	0								2
Rapid City	1	2								3
Grand Traverse	0	1								1
Mutual Aid Received From	12	8								20
Elk Rapids	7	4								11
Torch Lake	2	1								3
South Torch Lake	5	4								9
Rapid City	0	0								0
Grand Traverse	0	0								0
Milton Twp. Calls Breakdown										Totals
Structure Fire	3	4								7
Vehicle Fire	0	1								1
Dumpster Fire	0	0								0
Appliance Fire	0	0								0
Explosion	0	0								0
Tree Fire	0	0								0
Boat Fire	0	0								0
Smoke / Oder Investigation	0	0								0
Smoke in Building	0	0								0
Gas Leak	1	0								1
Fire Alarm	17	7								24
CO Alarm	2	3								5
Grass / Brush Fire	5	1								6
Burning Complaint	6	6								12
Transformer Fire	1	0								1
Power Pole Fire	0	0								0
Line Down	13	6								19
Tree Down	34	21								55
Vehicle Accident	13	6								19

Farm Rescue	0	0								0
Snowmobile Accident	0	1								1
EMS Assist	6	5								11
Landing Zone	1	0								1
Public Assist	4	0								4
911 Sign	21	0								21
Smoke Alarm	11	0								11
Knox Box	3	0								3
Hazardous Condition	1	0								1
Spills	0	0								0
Water / Ice Rescue	3	0								3
Weather Warning	0	0								0
	0	0								0

FUTURE STRATEGIC PLAN

- **Full time staff member, working during daytime hours.**
- **Replacement of 1993 Pierce International Pumper.**
- **Replacement of 1974 Chevy Water Point Truck.**
- **Remodel or Expansion of Station One.**
- **Cascade System to fill air bottles.**
- **Recruiting new members & Retaining current members.**
- **Make stations more energy efficient.**
- **Gear Washer and Extractor for cleaning PPE from cancer causing agents.**
- **Promoting our department programs: Reflective Address Sign, Smoke Alarm, Knox Box.**
- **Cadet Program**
- **Continue promoting our explorer program.**
- **Exhaust removal system for station 1**
- **Maintenance / Replacement of under ground storage tanks.**
- **Installation of water point signs at valid water point locations throughout the Township.**