

Fire Department Report
February 2022

A good portion of February for our fire department was continuing work with the apparatus committee to get closer to replacement of our #1 pump truck. We had the opportunity to explain to the Town Board our reasoning and needs surrounding this new apparatus. During the special workshop the Town Board granted us, we answered some very good questions asked by board members. I feel it was a very successful workshop and we are pressing forward towards putting out requests for proposals to the vendors we have had considerable dealings with.

We welcomed a new member to the emergency services this month as well. This member doesn't eat, doesn't sleep, has no opinions and doesn't talk back. Randy, the 145-pound-rescue "DUMMY," is perfect. It will be very realistic for training for years to come.

I have been glued to the news with Russia and Ukraine, and something keeps flooding my mind. As emergency services providers, we know when our radios yell, our pagers vibrate, our cellphone beeps or the siren goes off uptown, these devices generally aren't inviting us to a happy/fun event. No matter what the call is, we are heading there as quickly as possible. I couldn't imagine the thousands of emergencies happening in Ukraine, that everyone has to be an emergency responder while protecting their home. I see the bits and pieces of firefighters doing whatever they can to respond to these deliberate events. Very humbling to me, as I know when we're called, we go. Seeing all these brave people reminds me not to take what we have around us for granted. This is my opening thought to our fire department members at our training March 2.

That training, by the way, is our yearly DNR wildfire refresher, given by Washburn DNR.

Be safe,
Chief Reichkitzer

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