

# POWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF FIRE CHIEF CHRISTOPHER SUTTER

PO BOX 319 BIG BAY, MI 49808

(906) 345-9400

## September Fire Department Report

- **Calls for Service:** It has been eerily quiet for August. We have had 2 calls for service since the last township meeting. A power line down with a brush fire on KK, and a Fire Prevention / Public Education Event for the Lake Independence Homeowners Association.
- **Membership:** is at 24, of that 14 are FF's, 2 are Trainees, and 8 are Auxiliary. We are still working on cleaning up our roster and removing any inactive members.
- **FireFighter Training:** I ended up not registering for the MTA Class down in Frankenmuth. August training was on the new wildland skid unit for ATV 2112. So members had the chance to fire it up for the first time and learn how it operates. Annual SCBA Mask Fit Testing has been scheduled with Marq Twp FD for October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- **Auxiliary Class:** September was Driver's Safety & Training. This month marks the 1yr anniversary of the Auxiliary Programs 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting. I would like to thank each and every volunteer that has joined us on this new adventure.
- **Fire Stations:** Dressler's came out on the 11<sup>th</sup> to replace the boiler controller at Station 1. When they went to fire it up for the first time, one of the pumps inside the boiler caught on fire. This would have been the pump closest to the rear opening next to the water main that burst. So it appears like that pump took a direct hit. There was no way to know it was damaged until they went to fire it up for the first time after replacing the boiler controller. It also appears like the hot water re-circulator pump took a hard hit with water as well and will need to be replaced. The good news is insurance will be covering the damage.
- **Apparatus:** AC Anderson is still looking into the light fixtures on Brush 2104 that will need to be replaced. The search continues for a used ATV Trailer under 1500.
- **Equipment:** We have a couple chimney inspection mirrors on the agenda tonight as we begin to roll into the fall heating season. We would like to remind residents that there are chimney brushes available for use, if you would like to borrow them. AC Roell has requested small hand tools for Station 2 and Engine 2102 as they do not have any tools to work on their equipment or vehicles down at the halfway firehall, so we priced out a similar kit that was purchased earlier this year for new Brush Rescue 2104.
- **Grants:** The Fire Dept was just awarded a \$10,000 no match Grant from the State of Michigan on the 9<sup>th</sup>. This Grant was applied for to help us replace our current SCBA Bottles, which can no longer be hydro tested, will be losing their DOT certification and reaching their end of life in a little over a year from now. Luckily we knew this was coming and had time to prepare for it. This grant award along with \$1,000 from our Donated Funds and \$10,000 of Board approved ARPA funding, puts us in a position to fully fund this capital outlay expense without placing this burden on our township residents or current Fire Budget. On top of that we were able to save the township an additional \$10,000 by sourcing an off-brand bottle which meets all the same specs and certifications as our current bottles.
- **Events:** 1<sup>st</sup> School Fire Drill on the school year was on 9/14, we had 4 firefighters present. Another Fire Drill will be planned for Fire Prevention Week 10/10. The plan is to have students at the firehall once again this year for Fire Prevention Week.