



GOODWINS MILLS FIRE-RESCUE

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Fire Chief H. Rodney Carpenter
Chief Executive Officer

Deputy Fire Chief Karen M. Gagnon
Deputy Fire Chief Michael D. Lord

Goodwin's Mills Fire & Rescue

Chief's Annual Report

June 2007

Your Fire & Rescue Department responded to the following calls in 2006

5	Structure fires	191	Medical transport	25	Mutual aid EMS
9	Vehicle fires	55	Medical non transport	22	Mutual aid fire
22	Outside fires	97	Motor vehicle accidents	4	Mutual aid fire-EMS
10	Outside smoke investigation	1	Medical alarm	2	Station coverage
14	Alarm sounding	2	Advanced life intercept	3	Hazardous materials
3	Electrical	1	Code	2	Carbon monoxide
8	Heating system	11	False alarm	3	Public assistance
4	Odor investigation	3	Specialized rescue	9	Water problem
48	Storm damage				

Total 554 calls

The Members Volunteered 4,834 Man-hours handling these emergencies. The members spent 3,385 hours training to better their skills in mitigating incidents in our towns. Countless hours have also been spent on maintenance, workdays, fire prevention, inspections, public functions, and administrative duties.

In the past year Chief Norman Bilodeau has resigned as Fire Chief, However has agreed to stay on as Fire Investigator, Public information Officer and Safety Officer. Please Take a moment and thank chief Bilodeau for his past efforts and future endeavors working to make the Towns of Dayton and Lyman safer for our citizens and fire & rescue personnel.

Deputy Chief Karen Gagnon stepped up to the plate and filled in as acting fire chief for the 6-month process of choosing a new chief. Chief Gagnon did a fantastic job and made the transfer very smooth and painless. She is also staying on as Deputy reverting to her previous assignments to bring this department forward.

I would like to thank Deputy Chief Gagnon, Deputy Chief Lord and the rest of the officers for their extra duties and roles thru this reorganization.

The Department along with code enforcement has been working towards commercial inspections and working out plans to bring commercial buildings in compliance with Life Safety Codes. Please do not take this as an enforcement attitude but more of a chance to become compliant for the Life Safety of all involved.

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Since 1949

We have received several grants for equipment to lessen the burden on tax payers and increase our buying power. Forestry firefighting gear and Traffic safety gear are some of those purchases that will also enhance the safety of our response personnel.

One of the goals we have been working towards is firefighter safety. Lt Matt Duross has been working towards equipping and staffing a rapid intervention team to rescue firefighters in trouble during an incident. We are combining these efforts along with mirror policies with mutual aid companies to swap services at incidents.

Training Officer Captain Ben Harris is still working with outlying departments combining training programs and resources. He has been very successful in meeting state and federal training mandates.

The Department went thru a compliance inspection from the Bureau of Labor and Standards (BLS) Who acts as our OSHA. Thanks to Hard work of acting Chief Gagnon and the board of officers and members, we became compliant in a very short time frame.

We are presently in the process of taking the next step to upgrade our communication system. We have taken steps to secure a vhf repeater system on ft Ridge, which is the same site as York county sheriffs, York county ema, and several others. The system will be leased and not purchased which will save in maintenance and technology cost. With present Radio technology changing rapidly we felt this would be the better investment. To purchase a similar system would cost upward from 15,000 dollars.

This coming year we will be looking at the lack of Staffing and Administration, apparatus replacement plan and capital funding, and an insurance underwriters audit for each town to lower the fire insurance rating .

The Operations budget requested came to 11.7 % increase, this request included an increase in officer and training stipends, communications, equipment repair, Firefighter protective gear, retention & recruitment and software licensing.

The fulltime personnel budget increase is to help maintain present staffing and to hire staffing coverage for professional development time. Intermediate level and paramedicine classes.

We have asked for an increase in the Fire Truck account do to added technology and 2007 emission standard cost.

Please keep in mind the cost of living is just that, it does not take into consideration for upgrade in technology or moving a department forward. Our services we provide are very technology driven with a direct link to firefighter safety. Our members put their lives and financial welfare on the line frequently when making decisions at incidents within our Towns. We are often told we could lose everything with a bad decision. This is prevented by utilizing current technology equipment and skills acquired during Training.

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Each year the Towns grow and require more services from our department. It is our responsibility to adjust our growth rate so not to surprise either town with a huge budget increase in a given year. The only option that we know is to grow simultaneously with the Towns we serve. We do this by planning for the future and budgeting accordingly.

The Rescue budget is being maintained through billing and requires no monies from the Towns again this year. This budget supports the capital account for a new rescue (which has been purchased 4/07) and covers maintenance, supplies, insurances, payroll for on call EMT'S and a portion of the cost of fulltime staff and various other rescue expenditures.

Burning permits are required for all outside fires. Only brush and clean wood free from paints and stains are allowed to be burned. Permits can be obtained at the Fire Station Monday Thru Friday 8:30 am till 4:00 pm and on weekends from 8:30 am till 10:00 am on low and moderate fire danger days.

Please make sure your residence is properly marked to expedite us finding you in your time of need.

The Department is always looking for individuals to train for service within our organization. Please stop by or visit our website www.gmfd.org if you have any interest or want questions answered about us. You may also call our business line @ 207-499-2362

The Goodwin's Mills Fire & Rescue would like to thank you for your past support. Please visit our website for fresh photography, organizational chart and other information concerning your Department.

Please take the time to thank all of our members and families for the commitment and time they give up to belong to our department. They truly are the driving force for with out them we nothing.

As Fire chief I want to thank all of our members for believing in me and for letting me have the privilege to lead the best volunteer fire & rescue department I have ever known

Respectively,

Chief H. Rodney Carpenter

H. Rodney Carpenter, Chief