

## Milton Fire-Rescue 2015 Annual Report

In 2015, Milton Fire-Rescue's call volume increased by 52 calls for service, a seven percent increase in demand from 2014. The department responded to 767 calls for service, 465 were medical related and 302 were fire related. The following is a breakdown of those responses:

| <b>Fire &amp; EMS Incident Description</b>        | <b># Incidents</b> |
|---|--------------------|
| Building fire                                     | 29                 |
| Fires in structure other than a building          | 1                  |
| Cooking fire, confined to container               | 3                  |
| Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue | 4                  |
| Fire in a mobile home used as a fixed residence   | 1                  |
| Passenger vehicle fire                            | 6                  |
| Forest, woods or wildland fire                    | 10                 |
| Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire              | 1                  |
| Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire   | 1                  |
| Special outside fire, other                       | 1                  |
| Rescue, EMS incident, other                       | 2                  |
| Medical assist, assist EMS crew                   | 4                  |
| EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury  | 385                |
| Motor vehicle accident with injuries              | 24                 |
| Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident                 | 3                  |
| Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.          | 42                 |
| Search for person on land                         | 2                  |
| Rescue or EMS standby                             | 3                  |
| Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill          | 6                  |
| Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)                     | 8                  |
| Oil or other combustible liquid spill             | 3                  |
| Chemical spill or leak                            | 1                  |
| Carbon monoxide incident                          | 8                  |
| Heat from short circuit(wiring) defective/worn    | 1                  |
| Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other        | 3                  |
| Overheated motor                                  | 1                  |
| Breakdown of light ballast                        | 1                  |
| Power line down                                   | 3                  |
| Arcing, shorted electrical equipment              | 2                  |
| Building or structure weakened or collapsed       | 1                  |
| Attempted burning, illegal action                 | 1                  |
| Service Call                                      | 12                 |
| Person in distress                                | 2                  |
| Lock-out  | 5                  |
| Water problem                                     | 3                  |
| Smoke or odor removal                             | 3                  |
| Animal problem                                    | 2                  |

| <b>Fire &amp; EMS Incident Description (con't)</b> | <b># Incidents</b> |
|--|--------------------|
| Animal rescue                                      | 3                  |
| Public service assistance                          | 1                  |
| Assist police or other governmental agency         | 3                  |
| Police matter                                      | 1                  |
| Public service                                     | 2                  |
| Unauthorized burning                               | 22                 |
| Cover assignment, standby, move up                 | 15                 |
| Good intent call, other                            | 13                 |
| Dispatched & cancelled en route                    | 43                 |
| No incident found on arrival at dispatch address   | 7                  |
| Authorized controlled burning                      | 6                  |
| Smoke scare, odor of smoke                         | 4                  |
| HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat           | 2                  |
| Biological hazard investigation w/no HazMat        | 1                  |
| False alarm or false call, other                   | 4                  |
| Local alarm system, malicious false alarm          | 1                  |
| System malfunction, other                          | 2                  |
| Sprinkler activation due to malfunction            | 1                  |
| Smoke detector activation due to malfunction       | 9                  |
| Alarm system sounded due to malfunction            | 6                  |
| CO detector activation due to malfunction          | 7                  |
| Unintentional transmission of alarm, other         | 2                  |
| Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional | 6                  |
| Detector activation, no fire - unintentional       | 4                  |
| Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional   | 5                  |
| Special type of incident, other                    | 1                  |
| Citizen complaint                                  | 1                  |
| <b>Total Incidents</b>                             | <b>767</b>         |

| <b>EMS Incident Details</b>                |     |
|--|-----|
| Paramedic Intercepts                       | 156 |
| <b>Transports By Hospital</b>              |     |
| Frisbie Memorial Hospital                  | 297 |
| Wentworth Douglas Hospital                 | 27  |
| Huggins Hospital                           | 2   |
| Portsmouth Regional Hospital               | 2   |
| Goodall Hospital                           | 3   |
| York Hospital                              | 1   |
| <b>Ambulance Staffing</b>                  |     |
| Calls with One Medical Responder Available | 8   |
| Calls with no Medical Responders Available | 3   |
| Mutual Aid Ambulance Required              | 10  |

\*mutual aid ambulance required due to multiple incidents or multiple patients 9 times

In 2015, Milton Fire-Rescue provided mutual aid to neighboring communities 158 times, and received aid from these communities 190 times. Milton is fortunate to have several well equipped, neighboring agencies ready to respond and assist in emergency situations. As departments continue to struggle with available personnel and tight budgets, geographical boundaries fade and resources are coordinated to provide for the increased demand for service. This past year, Milton Fire-Rescue and Lebanon Fire and EMS signed an automatic aid agreement. This agreement states that Milton will cover any fire or medical call, of serious nature, in parts of Lebanon in which Milton Fire-Rescue will have a quicker response time. This agreement has been practiced for decades; however, 2015 marks its official implementation.

Milton Fire-Rescue would like to recognize Captain Jarrod Wheeler's 18 months of hard work and completion of his paramedic schooling. Now a Nationally Registered Paramedic, Captain Wheeler worked extensively on researching and equipping Milton's two ambulances to become licensed at a paramedic level. We are extremely excited to be able to provide the town with this increased level of service. We are still working closely with Frisbie Memorial Hospital Paramedic services to provide our residents with the best pre-hospital care available.

Milton Fire-Rescue continually strives to improve our ability to protect the residents and visitors of our community. In June, the department placed in service a new set of extrication tools. The \$50,000 investment came from the department's capital reserve fund and is set to last around 15 years. Ensuring we have modern and compliant equipment is paramount in our ability to safely and efficiently perform our mission. Although the needs of our department are abundant we understand the funding source for these needs is limited. As 2015 came to a close, the department applied for two separate federal grants totaling nearly \$890,000. One grant in the amount of \$690,000 was to replace Milton's 32 year old ladder truck; the other in excess of \$200,000 was to replace the department's Scott Air Paks. The department understands that these costs would undoubtedly be a financial burden on the taxpayers and we continue to apply for these grants during tough financial times to demonstrate our willingness to explore every outside funding source for capital projects.

During the 2015 annual town meeting, voters overwhelmingly supported a warrant article to finalize the design and engineering of the previously presented fire station. Over the course of several months the department worked with the architect to move the design from schematic through completion. Hours were spent looking over every detail from site development to electrical outlet placement. As the design was finalized in late 2015, the project was passed onto the construction manager to be placed out to bid. In the end, the construction manager received approximately 50 bids from the various trades. The final total request for the 2016 bond vote will be \$2,795,000; an amount less than the 2014 request and slightly more than the 2013 request. The engineering has now been completed, the square footage has been reduced by 25%, and the project has been competitively bid, yet the cost of the project has not been significantly reduced. If the construction of the fire station is continually pushed back the cost will rise annually at a rate estimated to be 3%-5% or \$100,000 each year. The town only has two years left to construct a new station on the property that has been graciously donated by the family of long time Fire Chief, Herbert Downs.

Milton Fire-Rescue would also like to congratulate one of our longtime members, as 2015 marked a special milestone. Andy Lucier served his 40<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as not only an active

member, but one of the most active current members of the department. Andy served Milton for 13 years as Chief until his “retirement” in 2009, and to this day serves the department as our “chauffer” and resident story teller. I would like to personally thank Andy for all of his years of service and to all the members of the department for their continuous hard work and dedication to making this department great.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Marique  
Fire Chief