



**Date:** Tuesday February 26 , 2019

**To:** Mayor Andy Mitchell and Council Members

**From:** Fire Chief Gord Jopling

**Subject:** 2018 Annual Report

**Status:** For Information

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## **Recommendation**

That the report from the Fire Chief dated Tuesday February 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 regarding the 2018 Annual Fire Report be received for information.

## **Information**

The following report provides Council with information on the operational division and major capital expenditures for the Fire Department in 2018.

## **Incident Calls**

Total calls for the year 2018 were 1245 compared to 1174 in 2017, an increase of 6.05%. Our medical calls account for 68% of the years call volume. See Table 1 for breakdown of calls in attachments below.

Total Fire calls this past year were up over last year at 101 for 2018 versus 69 for 2017. Fire losses were up at \$2,932,200.00 in comparison to the estimated losses of \$2,214,000.00 in 2017. A rash of structure fires early in the first two quarters of last year accounted for the dollar lose increase with more grass fires due to an extreme dry spring and early summer. Refer to the Table 2 for more call information.

Motor vehicle accidents were down slightly from the previous year. False and CO alarm calls stayed at roughly the same number as in previous years.

Table 3 shows the breakdown of the number of calls per each fire hall.  
Table 4 is the quarterly breakdown

## **Personnel**

The Fire Department currently has a roster of 92 personnel. Fire halls #2, 3, 4 have a relatively healthy compliment of personnel. Hall #1 and 5 have seen a decline in their

numbers as personnel have left the department or moved to other areas in the Township.

In order to increase the compliment of firefighters for Halls #1 and #5 a recruitment was conducted in late November 2017 with the help of Human Resources Coordinator Kim Berry. There were 17 interviews conducted with the following 11 people being offered positions. Of the eleven, eight attended the 2018 EOETA recruit training course in Norwood. Three where Pre service fire graduates.

Jake Andrews	H#1	Ilana Overink	H#3	Chris Vivian	H#5
Joshua Neadow	H#1	Adam Dobbie	H#4	Evan Dodds	H#5
Steve Woods	H#1	Mark Young	H#5	Jordan Whelan	H#5
John Sanguinetti	H#1	Stephan Heintz	H#5		

Year six of our Christmas service awards dinner was held at the Ennismore Arena with a very good turnout. The following long service awards were handed out.

**5 years** – Ian Bolton, Scott Micks, **10 years**- Brad Conlin, Jeff Donald, Jason Garbutt, Mark Hinan, Matt Walker **15 years** – Rob Cavanagh, John Crowley, Kevin Lanigan **20 years**- Dan Farrow, Paul Fitzgerald **25 years**- Scott Cavanagh, Bill Northey, Denis Rioux **40**- Ron Robinson, **45 years**- Paul Murray

In a December 2017 officers meetings, it was decided to once again start a support project for 2 students that live in the Township, and that are currently in the Sir Sanford Fleming Pre Fire Service course. The students would be outfitted in our Personal Protective Equipment, attend all training and calls as their college courses dictated. They would receive no monetary compensation and at the end of the year, on their graduation of the course, the Selwyn officers committee would make the decision if they were to be accepted for a permanent position. The two students last year where Drew Goble and Mitchell Wood. They both proved to be outstanding firefighters and are now part of the Selwyn firefighter family.

The **Mitchell Pogue Award** was presented to Dan Fletcher for 2018. The award winners are picked by their peers for a new firefighter that exemplifies commitment, enthusiasm and passion for the fire service.

The **Outstanding Service Award** recognizes an exemplary member for outstanding service. The 2018 recipient was Captain Scott Cavanagh.

A third award, the **Excellence in Training Award** is presented to the firefighter that consistently attends training, always striving to improve their skills. The 2018 recipient was Senior Captain Tim Gingrich.

A fourth award was presented for the first time this past year – the **Exemplary Leadership Award**. This award recognizes strong leadership qualities and goes to a

member who is highly respected for their ability to foster an atmosphere of teamwork and common purpose. This award was presented to Todd Wilson.

Congratulations to all award winners.

There were also two firefighter that stepped down from the fire service for various reasons in 2018 and we recognize their contribution for service provided to the Township.

- Brian Geffert – Hall 4
- Dave Groves – Hall 5

### **Fire Prevention/Education**

On February 20, 2018 Andrew Bowyer started in the position of Fire Prevention Officer with the Township. The Department's Fire Prevention and Fire Safety initiatives are continuing to work well and show positive outcomes in the community.

Fire Prevention Week this past fall reached 759 children through tours of the fire halls and in class presentations.

Halloween night once again had approximately 700 kids and parents attend Halls #1, 2, 5. There is also a large amount of home fire safety information material that is handed out to the parents

Fire crews attended 2 trailer parks this past summer to raise awareness about trailer safety and distribute fire safety information and Smoke/CO alarms. This went over really well with residents of the trailer parks and was very much appreciated. This will be an ongoing event as we try to hit at least 2 different parks a season.

The Shamrock festival continues to be a great spot to set up as it is front and centre for the many families that attend the festivities. A greater initiative will be made to attend community events in 2019 as previous events have been met with excited enthusiasm and an opportunity to help educate the public on Fire Safety.

Sparky (our mascot, Denis Rioux Hall 3 looks after 98%) made 31 appearances at events throughout the year and is always a huge hit with the kids.

Andrew has continued the Swim to Survive Program along with the Peterborough Risk Watch Committee.

Smoke alarm door to door inspections for the year added up to 135 inspections. Smoke alarm sales continue at a brisk pace as home owners become aware that they can pick them up at the fire hall and ask those questions as to where and how to install them properly.

In May The Department was selected as one of the Fire Marshall's Public Safety Council and Enbridge "Project Zero" recipients. The Department receive 150 free Kidde Smoke and CO combo 10 year lithium battery alarms. These alarms went out into the community into homes of families that may not have otherwise had the funds to afford alarms. The alarms were divided between the 5 Halls and distributed by Firefighters to those who needed them.

There were 26 inspections done to the various schools, businesses and requests and complaints.

There were 2, Part 1 Provincial Offences tickets handed out to property owners who had fires occur or problems found in a home inspection that had no working or disabled alarms.

### **Apparatus and Equipment**

Car #1 replacement a 2018 GMC 2500 was finalized in late June. The older car #1, 2012 GMC 2500 was moved into the Car #2 position with the older 2006 ford being utilized by the Township landfill attendants.

### **Strategic Plan Reference**

Achieve excellence in governance and service delivery

### **Financial Impact**

None

### **Environmental Impact**

None

### **Attachment**

Table 1, breakdown of calls 2018  
Table 2, total fire losses 2018  
Table 3, breakdown of the number of calls per each fire hall.  
Table 4, quarterly breakdown

*Gord Jopling*

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**Prepared By: Gord Jopling, Fire Chief**

*Janice Lavalley*

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**Reviewed By: Janice Lavalley, CAO**

