

July 26, 2018



Fire Chief's Report

Lt Griswold/ FF Matlick retirement

As you may have heard Lt. Mike Griswold has retired. He was completing his 17th year with us. This of course opens up a Lt position. We have three FFs on the Lt's promotion list which I will be interviewing over the next week. We use the Rule of Three process in which I select one of the top three candidates. Once we promote a FF to Lt that will open a FF position. We have exhausted our FF hiring list so we will have to start from the beginning. We will advertise for 30 days, take the top candidates who have applied through National Testing, and run them through an oral board. Through National testing the candidates can get their physical agility test done which we call a CPAT and a written test. The oral board will probably be around the end of August.

We celebrated FF Matlick's retirement at St 4 today. Vern was completing his 15th year. A very nice ceremony.

Officers meeting – At this month's officers meeting we discussed our current staffing model. As you recall this was a new approach to better spread our resources around the island to try and improve response times and better utilize our people. Right now our minimum staffing call for personnel at stations 2, 3, and 4. Typically we have three people at St 2 to primarily staff a medic unit, 3 people at St 4 on the engine, and 2 on a medic or aid unit at St 3. When we have two part time FFs on duty and seven or eight full time FF on duty we can place 2 people at Station 5 for the day. Unfortunately this isn't happening as often as I would like. We are currently low on part time firefighters because we have hired four of them and lost a few to other departments. We are attempting to build up our part time list but it is a very competitive market. One suggestion for staffing improvement of this model is to take the third person from the ambulance at St 2 and place them on the Engine. This would tend to keep that third person on the Island when M102 transports. It does place most of our resources on the north end of the island which is where most of our calls are.

Grant for skid unit – We received a \$15,000 grant for a wildland skid unit from FireHouse Subs. This would be used on a pickup chassis to produce a Type 6 engine or Brush truck. Our options are to find a used heavy duty pickup truck or to get a new one. Jay, Capt Allen and I discussed what is available through the State. This unit would be used as a quick response vehicle on the Island, we could send it out on deployment in the summer time, it could be fitted with a snow plow for the winter, it could pull a boat possibly allowing us to repurpose or surplus the F250. With deployments I would hope that we could cover the cost of the vehicle in 4-5 years. Going through the State we estimate the cost to be around \$80,000 for a Crew cab and chassis and equipment.