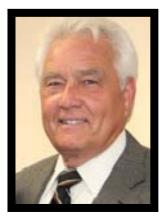


# ZION FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

# 2018 Annual Report







Mayor Al Hill

# CITY OF ZION

City Clerk—Sheryl Spooner

### Fire & Police Commission

Debbie Lewis John Idleburg Shawn White



Commissioner Lloyd DeTienne



**Commissioner** Christopher Fischer



Commissioner Mike McDowell



Commissioner Billy McKinney



John Lewis Fire Chief



Eric Montellano Deputy Fire Chief



Mary Hudson Administrative Assistant



Jen Brozek Administrative Assistant

#### From the desk of the Fire Chief...

As in past years, I continue to present you, the citizens and visitors to the City of Zion, our Annual Report for the calendar year 2018. This report is intended to provide a snapshot of the activities and achievements that reflect the ongoing dedication and professionalism of the personnel that make up the Zion Fire and Rescue Department. As you will see in this document, the members of the Zion Fire and Rescue Department strive to meet and exceed the expectations of our customers by providing the highest level of service possible. The data contained within this report is a testament to the professionalism and dedication of all the members of the department.

We responded to 4,237 incidents in 2018, which was a decrease of 79 calls from 2017. We were ranked the 9th busiest department out of 32 fire departments in Lake County. The chart showing the call volume summary for Lake County can be found elsewhere in this report. In between emergency responses, members are typically participating in training, fire inspections, public education, and other non-incident activities. As the Fire Chief, I can easily say that our success is a testament to the professionalism and dedication of each member of the department.

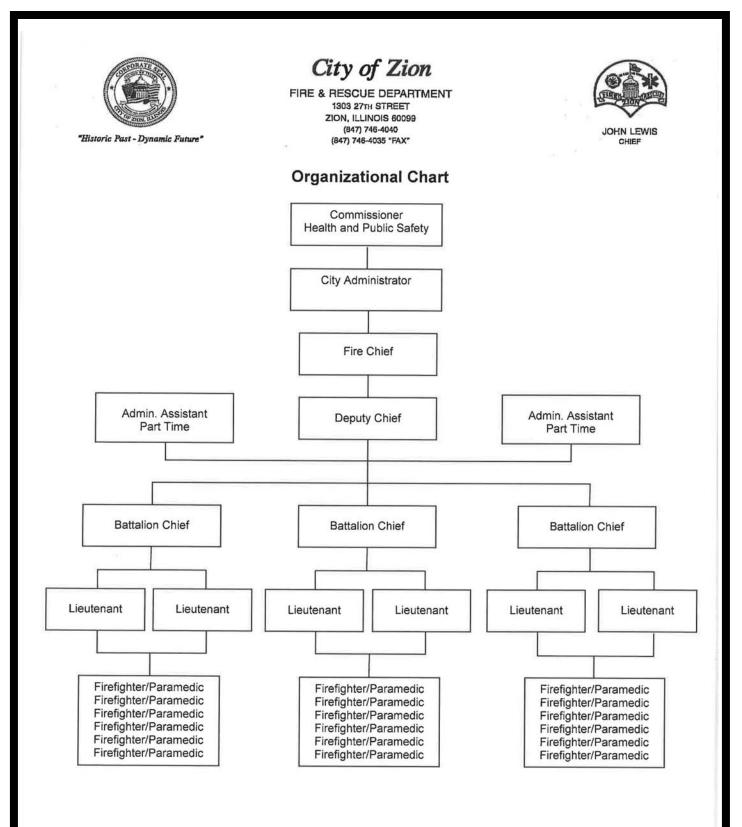
As with most municipalities and fire agencies, 2018 was a fiscally challenging year. Even with our budget's growing fiscal restraints, through cooperation with the elected officials and key city personnel, we were able to achieve several budgetary goals this year. We had a 1992 engine which had well exceeded fire service standards for length of service and was replaced with a 2018 E-One engine at a cost of approximately \$200,000 less than the last engine we purchased in 2007. Also purchased was a 2018 ambulance to replace our 2004 ambulance which was nearing the end of its recommended service life due to maintenance issues. These purchases were made to ensure we have reliable equipment available to respond to the needs of the community. Our apparatus is typically rotated from a front-line to reserve status to ensure we get the most life out of the apparatus before looking at replacement. As we move into 2019, we will be forced to seek methods to further reduce our costs and maintain services as we face the current economic conditions affecting us all. July 11, 2018 marked the one year anniversary of consolidation with the Village of Gurnee for dispatch services which now handles all 911 and non-emergency dispatching for the City of Zion. We are continuing to work with the Beach Park Fire Protection District on a functional consolidation program.

It is my honor and privilege to serve the City of Zion as Fire Chief. On behalf of the members of the Zion Fire and Rescue Department and myself, I extend my gratitude to Mayor Al Hill, Commissioner Lloyd DeTienne, Commissioner Billy McKinney, Commissioner Mike McDowell, and Commissioner Christopher Fischer for their support and service to the City. I know firsthand the time and effort that is put into the City to make sure it is a great place to live and work. Despite the conditions faced, they have never lost focus on the need to provide public safety services for the City of Zion.

If you have any questions regarding the Zion Fire and Rescue Department, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at johnl@zion.il.us or you can call me at (847) 746-4042. Please visit our section on the City of Zion web page or look us up and "Like" us on Facebook at "Zion Fire-Rescue Department". We welcome visitors who wish to learn more about the fire department and the services we provide. Feel free to stop by and see us sometime!

Sincerely,

John Lewis



Revised May 1, 2018

### Personnel



BC Alan Eppers Battalion Chief



**Battalion Chief** 











Lt. Rick Reich



Lt. Dane Costello



FF/PM Brian Haske



FF/PM Kevin Johnson



FF/PM Brian Stodola



FF/PM Sarai Soto





Lt. Jason Messick

a

FF/PM Matt Dykiel

FF/PM Vito LaPorta



FF/PM Tom Bailey



FF/PM Eric Pursche

FF/PM Tim Urbanik

FF/PM Justin Biggs







FF/PM Ashley Rebou

### Retired

**Battalion Chief Allen Town** November 17, 2018 26 years of service

#### Resigned

FF/PM Jack Trimble FF/P Brian Stodola FF/PM Vito LaPorta



FF/PM Jay Vance



FF/PM Chris Dodd











### Apparatus



Engine 1811 2018 E-One



Quint 1831 1999 Pierce



MICU 1843 2012 AEV Ambulance



Engine 1812 2007 Pierce Arrow XT



MICU 1841 2014 AEV Ambulance



MICU 1842 2018 AEV Ambulance



Battalion 18 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe



Utility 1892 2007 Ford F250



ATV 1871 2005 Polaris Ranger



Fire Chief 1890 2009 Ford Expedition



Deputy Chief 1891 2017 Ford Explorer



**Hazmat Trailer** 

The inspection, testing, preventive maintenance, replacement schedule and emergency repair of all apparatus fall under the guidance of Lieutenant Rocky Campanella. It is critical that all of our apparatus are ready and reliable to respond to emergency incidents. Maintenance is a combination of in-house daily checks as well as preventive maintenance and repairs conducted by the City of Zion Public Works fleet maintenance division. Typically the life expectancy of our apparatus is shown below. The determining factor for replacement is based on actual use and reliability. The City budget also plays a large role in the replacement schedule based on the cost replacement. Listed next to the lifespan is the average replacement cost for Zion apparatus at today's market. Exact costs are based on options and customization by individual fire departments.

Apparatus Type Ambulance: Ladder Truck: Engines: Years of Service 5 years frontline, 5 years in reserve 15 years frontline, 5 years reserve 12 years frontline, 8 years in reserve Replacement Cost \$230,000 \$1.5 million \$500,000

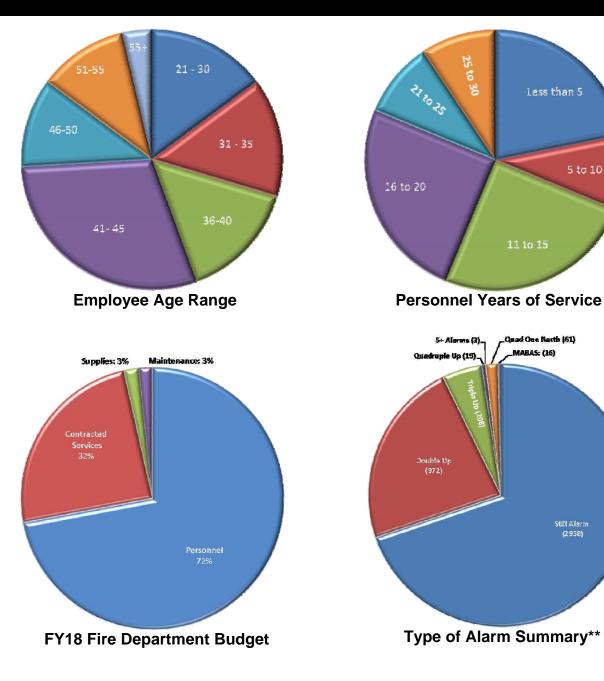
## 2018 Lake County Call Volume



### Lake County, IL Fire Departments / Districts Call Volume Summary

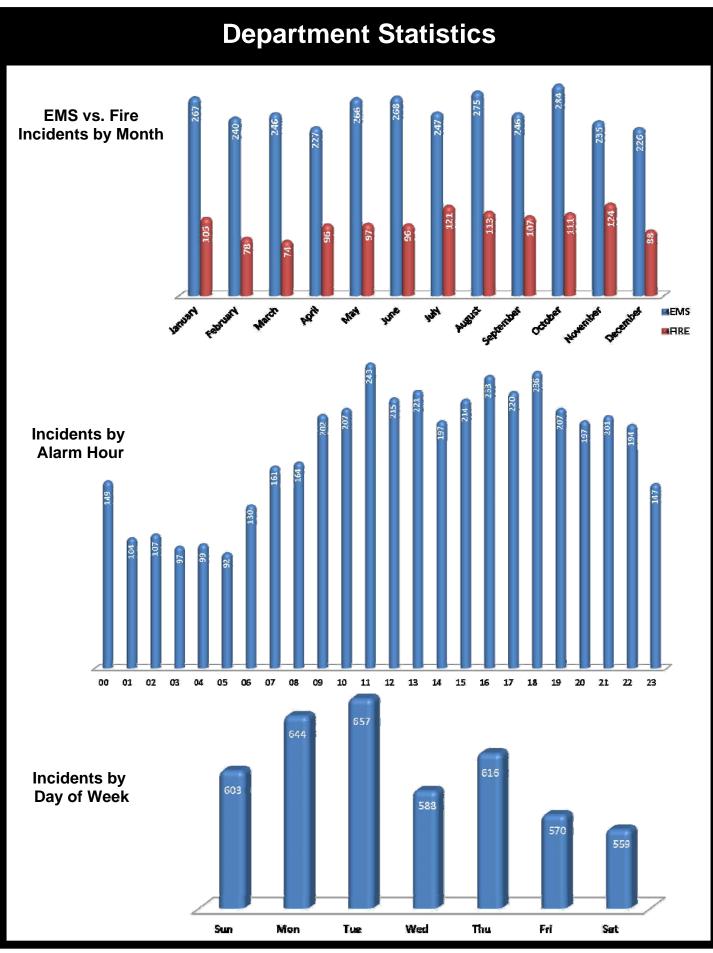
	Agency	2018	2017	+/-	%
	Agency	2010	2017	18 / 17	(18 / 17)
1	Abbott / AbbVie (239/787)	1,006	1,029	-23	-2.2%
2	Antioch	3,363	3,182	181	5.7%
3	Barrington	1,931	1,826	105	5.8%
4	Barrington-Countryside	1,976	1,983	-7	-0.4%
5	Beach Park	1,534	1,497	37	2.5%
6	Buffalo Grove	4,704	4,757	-53	-1.1%
7	Cary	2,134	1,981	153	7.7%
8	Countryside	4,918	4,809	109	2.3%
9	Deerfield-Bannockburn	3,321	3,055	266	8.7%
10	Fox Lake	3,792	3,722	70	1.9%
11	Fox River Grove	745	708	37	5.2%
12	Grayslake	4,439	4,266	173	4.1%
13	Great Lakes	3,747	3,681	66	1.8%
14	Gumee	6,819	6,230	589	9.5%
15	Highland Park	5,556	5,450	106	1.9%
17	Knollwood araczone	469	748	-279	-37.3%
18	Lake Bluff	640	726	-86	-11.8%
19	Lake Forest	3,289	3,369	-80	-2.4%
20	Lake Villa	3,046	3,002	44	1.5%
21	Lake Zurich	4,180	3,975	205	5.2%
22	Libertyville	4,628	4,312	316	7.3%
23	Lincolnshire-Riverwoods	3,463	3,482	-19	-0.5%
24	Long Grove	1,541	1,539	2	0.1%
25	Mundelein	3,782	3,294	488	14.8%
26	Newport Township	1,297	1,211	86	7.1%
27	North Chicago	3,008	2,963	45	1.5%
28	Round Lake	4,792	4,921	-129	-2.6%
29	Wauconda	4,115	4,012	103	2.6%
30	Waukegan	11,247	11,236	11	0.1%
31	Wheeling	4,375	4,686	-311	-6.6%
32	Winthrop Harbor	1,099	1,075	24	2.2%
33	Zion Fire	4,237	4,313	-76	-1.8%
	TOTAL CALLS	109,193	107,040	2,153	2.0%

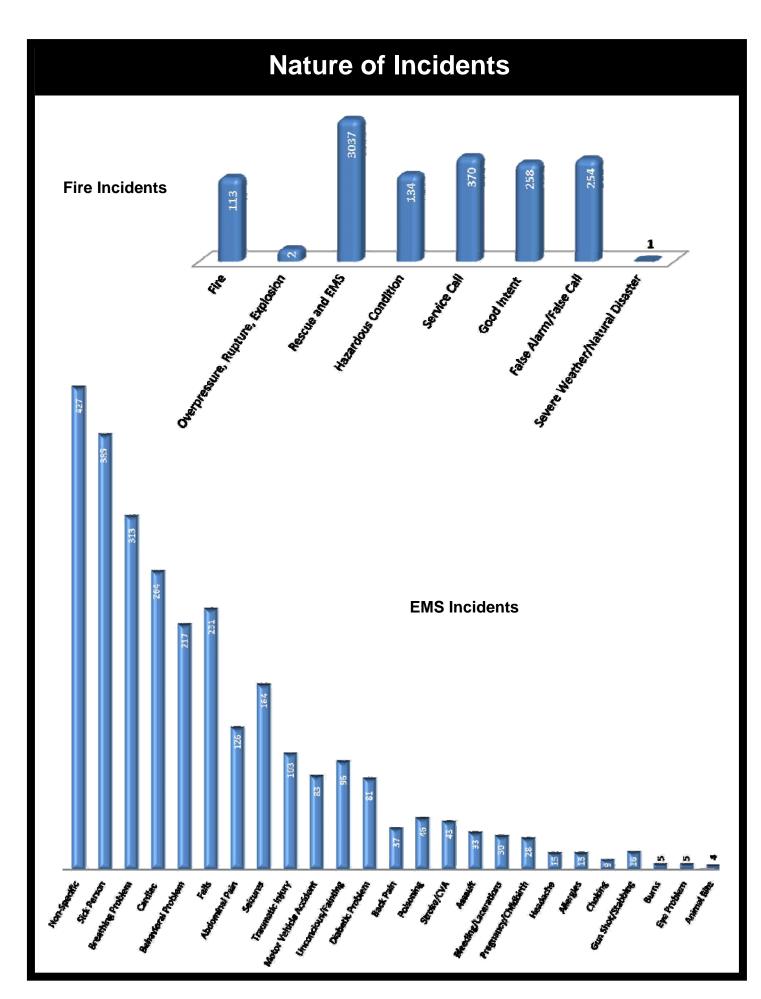
## **Department Statistics**



#### \*\*DEFINITION OF ALARM TYPES:

STILL ALARM:	One call
DOUBLE UP:	Two calls simultaneously
TRIPLE UP:	Three calls simultaneously
QUADRUPLE:	Four calls simultaneously
5+:	Five or more calls simultaneously
Q1N:	Beach Park, Newport, Pleasant Prairie, Winthrop Harbor, and Zion
	respond simultaneously to a structure fire
MABAS:	Mutual Aid Box Alarm System response
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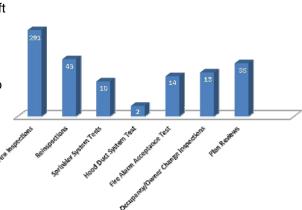




### **Fire Prevention Bureau**

Fire prevention services provided to the residents and visitors of Zion are coordinated through the Fire Prevention Bureau. The Fire Chief also serves as the Fire Marshal. The shift commanders are responsible for conducting the majority of the daily inspections supplemented by shift personnel as needed. Nearly everyone who lives in, works in, or visits Zion is positively impacted by the bureau's services. There are approximately 500 businesses, excluding residential occupancies, that we attempt to inspect each year. The Zion Building Department, under the Rental Inspection Program, is responsible for the inspection of multi-family residential buildings with greater than 3 units. Additionally, the Bureau is responsible for inspections on all new construction, certificates of occupancy, plan reviews, fire systems testing as well as general fire code compliance.





### **Fire Training/EMS Training**

Each month staff attend approximately 8 in-house training sessions which are led by shift trainers as well as at least

one individually assigned on-line training session. Included in these hours are an annual minimum of 30 hours of EMS continuing education per staff member to remain certified as a paramedic. These training sessions ensure we meet the mandated training hours set by each regulatory agency identified below. Training sessions can be delivered through a variety of means including video, classroom, hands-on, or combination of each and are coordinated by our training officer, Battalion Chief Alan Eppers.

ZFRD staff participated in approximately 335 fire and EMS training sessions in 2018 accounting for a total of 2,700 staff training hours.

Battalion Chief Eppers, along with his shift trainers, are responsible for planning, outlining, scheduling, administering, and evaluating all classes. Our EMS training includes monthly session instructed by the Continuing Education Coordinator employed by the North Lake County EMS System at Vista Health. Lieutenant Jason Messick assists Battalion Chief Eppers in coordinating our EMS Training and serves as the liaison between our department and the North Lake County EMS System.

Training must conform to the requirements set forth by the following agencies at minimum

- Zion Fire and Rescue Department and City of Zion
- Illinois Department of Labor
- Insurance Services Office

- Occupational Health and Safety Agency
- Office of State Fire Marshal
- Illinois Department of Public Health

### **Public Education**

Our Public Education program is coordinated by Lt. Mark Klamut. The goal of our public education program is to reach out to the community and promote safety methods related to fire and rescue services. Many of the programs we deliver or assist with include but are not limited to:

- Internships with Local School Programs
- Internships with Zion-Benton High School Transition Program
- Internships with Zion-Benton New Tech School Programs
- Fire safety talks for community groups
- Fire Prevention Week Activities
- Lake County Fire Expo
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Community CPR classes

- Station Tours
- Health Fairs
- Block parties
- Blood Drives
- Career fairs



## **Zion Fire & Rescue in Action**



Find us on Facebook at Zion Fire-Rescue Department

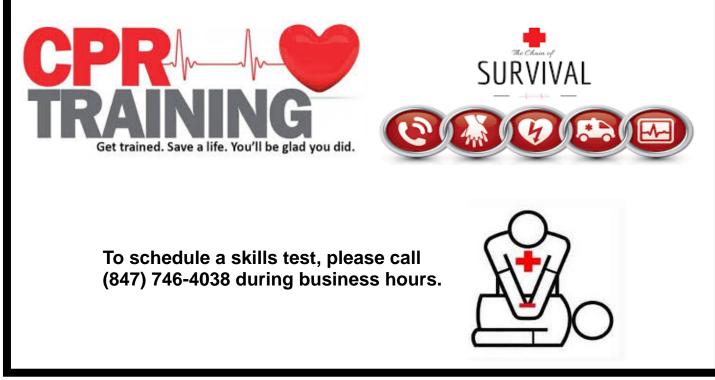
Website: www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department

## **CPR Program**



We urge everyone to take a CPR class. You will never know when your ability to perform CPR might save the life of a family member, friend, coworker or even a complete stranger. It is now easier than ever to learn CPR. The American Heart Association now provides internet based classes in Heartsaver and BLS CPR. You can access the American Heart Association courses at www.onlineaha.org.

After completing the eLearning course that best fits your needs, please call the Zion Fire and Rescue Department to schedule the appropriate skills test. The skills test will take approximately one (1) hour. The skills testing will cost \$35 and once completed successfully, we will process the paperwork for you to obtain your CPR card. For information on group classes, contact us at (847) 746-4038.



### **Frequently Asked Questions**

### Have you ever wanted to ask.....

#### Why does a fire truck come when you call for an ambulance?

Every shift member of the Zion Fire and Rescue Department is also cross-trained as a paramedic. There has been much advancement in the field of pre-hospital medicine over the years and paramedics can now perform many additional life saving techniques than in earlier years. On critical calls, an engine will accompany the ambulance to provide an additional two paramedics to assist with patient care allowing the paramedics to deliver effective care more rapidly. Additionally, the layout of many homes may require additional staff to safely remove the patient by navigating around furniture or up and down stairs. Some responses may require a third paramedic to transport a patient to the hospital and the initial response of an engine with the ambulance eliminates critical time waiting for additional help to arrive to drive the ambulance to the hospital.

#### What is the difference between a fire truck and a fire engine?

Although most people consider the vehicle we respond on as "fire trucks", there is actually a difference between each. A fire truck, also known as a ladder or aerial truck, carries multiple ground ladders of varying length and purpose and is usually used to reach upper floors of buildings. You will usually find a hydraulic ladder attached to the top of the truck which can typically reach any where from 65 to 105 feet. A truck typically carries rescue equipment for forcible entry, numerous power tools such as chain saws, ventilation fans, and lighting equipment.

A fire engine, also known as a fire pumper, carries thousands of feet of fire hose, nozzles, hose couplings and other equipment. It also carries up to 750 gallons of water in a tank for a quick attack on a fire which is critical to fire control until they can establish a dedicated water supply from a fire hydrant. It can also carry various tools, fans, and equipment that may be used on various incidents.

#### Why do you leave fire apparatus idling when they are parked outside?

The fire engines and ambulances carry a wide array of very important equipment that we use to treat patients, fight fires and communicate with each other. Many of these items, especially the medications and medical devices we carry, would be subject to damage in certain temperature extremes. In the summer it is necessary to keep these items cool and in the winter it is necessary to keep them warm to ensure that the electronic equipment will operate properly and the medications are not affected by dramatic temperature changes. In addition, a large number of items on the fire engines and ambulances require a constant charge to guarantee optimal and prolonged use. This includes but is not limited to suction units for clearing a patient's airway, thermal imaging cameras for seeing through smoke, portable radios for communication, spare batteries for cutting tools, on-board dispatch computers and flashlights for rescue operations. If the engines and ambulances are shut down completely for lengthy periods of time, without an outside power source, there is a slight possibility of them not starting again when needed. We do try to shut them down whenever the amount of time and temperature conditions will allow but these instances are less common than not and occur on a case-by-case basis. Manually shutting down each and every piece of equipment that causes a drain on the system is simply not possible. When the emergency vehicles are in the station they are always plugged into a power source to keep the equipment and batteries charged, but when the vehicles are out of the station they need to rely on the power generated by allowing the vehicles to idle or run when parked.

#### What should I do when I see or hear an emergency vehicle coming towards me when I'm driving?

When it is safe to do so, you should pull over to the right and stop until all emergency vehicles have safely passed. If you cannot safely maneuver to the right, simply stop and stay stopped so the vehicles can go around you safely.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Why do we block traffic lanes at accidents?

Flashing lights and activities easily distract drivers which is dangerous for personnel working accident scenes or near roadways. In order to maintain the safety of our personnel and the patients, we block traffic lanes with our apparatus. Blocking extra lanes keep our personnel safe when they go back to the apparatus to get more equipment and help protect the victim we are trying to stabilize. Scott's Law, 625 ILCS 5/11- 907(c), mandates that when motorists are approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle, and the authorized emergency vehicle is giving a signal by displaying alternately flashing red, red and white, blue, or red and blue lights or amber or yellow warning lights, a person who drives an approaching vehicle shall reduce the speed of your vehicle, yield the right-of-way by changing lanes away from an authorized emergency vehicle and proceed with due regard to safety and traffic conditions.

#### Why do firefighters work 24-hour shifts?

The 24-hour shift is a typical fire service shift. Although you can find varying schedules, most will revolve around a 24-hour on-duty cycle. This is closely related to the nature of our work and was developed for consistency among personnel and the tasks we perform. The traditional 8 hour work day would require more personnel to be on-duty to cover the three shifts. Our firefighters work a 53 hour work week which is averaged among the 24-hour on duty and 48 hour off duty schedule. This type of schedule is the most cost-effective work schedule to provide fire protection and is the most common.

#### What is a typical work day for the Zion Fire and Rescue Department?

Personnel that work the 24-hour shift report to their assigned station by 7:00 am and will remain on duty until 7:00 am the next day. Administrative personnel work an 8 hour day, typically 8:00 am-5:00 pm, but their start and end times may vary depending on their daily schedule. The day typically starts with a morning "pass-down" where off going and oncoming shift personnel discuss items that need to be attended to. During the next couple of hours personnel conduct their daily fitness stretching, check out all of the apparatus and equipment to make sure everything is in proper working order and clean; perform house chores such as mopping floors, cleaning bathrooms and living guarters, vacuuming carpets, making any necessary minor repairs, and washing the bay floors. Around 9:00 am, personnel participate in scheduled medical and/or fire training. This training can last up to 3-4 hours and will usually finish right before lunch. Lunch is scheduled between Noon and 1:00 pm. Working on individual areas of responsibility, conducting fire prevention bureau inspections, finishing any training or house chores that were not completed in the morning, conducting public education events and working out are just a sample of the activities that occur after lunch. Once all daily activities are completed, usually around 4:00-5:00 pm, personnel are free to read, study for classes, watch TV, workout, or go to bed. Although this is considered their personal time, they remain in the station and must be ready to respond to any emergency call. Any part of the daily schedule can be and often is disrupted by emergency calls. When this occurs, personnel will adjust the daily schedule to make sure all the necessary tasks are completed, if possible, before they go home the next morning.

#### Why do we see fire department crews shopping at the local stores?

Because the crews work a 24-hour shift, they will eat their lunch and dinner at their respective stations as a group. On holidays or various occasions, both stations will get together for a meal. Personnel pay for their food out of their own pockets and share the cost. At some point during the day, personnel from each station decide among themselves what they want for lunch or dinner that day and one of the crews will make a quick trip to the grocery store to purchase food for the shift. The cost of the meals is then divided between everyone that eats. Crews at the store remain in service to respond to calls during this time. Sometimes the crews will eat a meal together at one of our local restaurants. We allow this to keep them engaged with the City of Zion. They must remain in service and available to quickly respond.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### My smoke detector is chirping, what does that mean?

Most modern smoke detectors will chirp to alert you the batteries are low, you should replace the batteries and test your smoke detector. Smoke detectors can be purchased at any hardware or large commercial department store.

#### How often should I change the batteries in my smoke detectors?

We recommend you change the batteries in your smoke detectors every 6 months; an easy way to remember is to change batteries when you reset your clock for daylight savings time.

#### Does the Fire Department fill fire extinguishers or dispose of fire extinguishers?

The Zion Fire and Rescue Department does not fill fire extinguishers. If you have an extinguisher that needs refilling, you can find a local fire extinguisher business through the internet or yellow pages.

#### Can I burn leaves or have a recreation fire in my yard?

You cannot burn construction/demolition material, treated wood and/or lumber, grass, leaves, yard waste, rubbish or other combustible materials in the City of Zion at any time. The burning of fuels for legitimate campfire, recreational and cooking purposes, or in domestic fireplaces, is allowed provided that no garbage shall be burned in such cases. Any outside fire pit used for recreational fires shall be five feet in diameter or less and 25 feet from any structure or tree line. There shall be noncombustible materials (rocks, concrete blocks, brick or similar) to identify the perimeter or a manufactured fire pit may be used. For more detail on the Open Burning Ordinance, please visit <u>www.cityofzion.com</u>, Municipal Code, Section 34-58.

#### Does the fire department fill swimming pools?

Our apparatus must stay in service and ready to respond at all times. We cannot chance being committed to filling a pool and needing the vehicle, hose and water supply for a structure fire response.

#### Why are windows broken and holes cut in roofs by firefighters?

As a fire burns, it moves upward and outward. Breaking the windows and /or cutting holes in the roof, known as ventilating, stops the damaging outward movement and enables fire fighters to fight the fire more efficiently, resulting in less damage to structure in the long run.

#### What is the City's Insurance Services Office (ISO rating) for fire protection?

The City of Zion is currently rated as an ISO 3. The ISO rating is an evaluation of the fire department and its ability to provide fire protection based on training, staff, water supply, communications. An extensive survey is conducted and each area above is examined closely. After an analysis of the data is conducted, an ISO rating is assigned between 1 and 10, with 1 being the highest possible rating that can be achieved. Insurance companies may choose to take into account an ISO rating when establishing the cost of premiums for customers within a jurisdiction.

#### Can I get my blood pressure taken?

Stop by Fire Station One at 1303 27<sup>th</sup> Street and the firefighters will be able to take your blood pressure, free of charge. Please use the main door on the East side of station. You may also call (847) 746-4038 for more information or to schedule a time to come in.



To learn more about information in this annual report, fire department operations, or how we may be of assistance to you or your group please contact the Zion Fire and Rescue Department at (847) 746-4038.

www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department