

FIRE DEPARTMENT

How quickly time passes! The year 2007 has come and gone, and 2008 is upon us. 2007 was an active but average year, call volume was down slightly. That was an average of .93 calls per day. We responded to four (4) building fires, three (3) were relatively minor. I'm sorry to say the fourth fire resulted in a fatality. This is the first fire related fatality in Newton that I can remember in 43 years of service.

I am starting to see a man power (for lack of) problem within the department. Some of the people have taken full-time positions, some are going back to school and some are just leaving town. Our biggest need is during the daytime hours. This probably won't come as a shock to many, but we may need to start thinking about a couple of full-time day people. If anybody would like to be a part of our organization, before we have to go to full-time status, please come and see me. Our average on scene arrival time is still only 7.76 minutes. The average on scene time is 34.22 minutes.

In closing, I would like to thank the citizens of Newton for your continued support. It is our job to keep the town safe; this is a responsibility that we take willingly and seriously. I would also like to thank the members (past and present) of this department for your willingness to make this department what it is.

If anyone has questions, concerns or comments about the Fire Department, please call or stop in.

REMEMBER, SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES AND HOUSE NUMBERS SAVE TIME!

CALLS FOR SERVICE:

Building Fire	4	Lock-out	6
Chimney or Flu Fire	1	Water Evacuation	2
Fuel Burner/Boiler Malfunction	1	Water or Steam Leak	2
Fire in Motor Home or Camper	1	Smoke or Odor Removal	7
Brush, or Brush & Grass Mix	4	Assist Police or other Government	2
Explosion	1	Assist Invalid	2
Rescue, Emergency Medical Call	1	Unauthorized Burning	4
EMS Call, excluding vehicle ac	188	Cover Assignment, standby	18
Vehicle Accident with Injuries	24	Authorized Controlled Burning	7
Rescue or EMS Standby	2	Smoke Scare, odor of Smoke	3
Hazardous Condition, other	1	Hazmat Release Investigation	1
Gasoline or other Flammable	1	False Alarm or False Call	1
Gas Leak (natural gas or LPG)	2	Smoke Detector Activation	2
Carbon Monoxide Incident	6	Alarm System Sounded	3
Electrical Wiring/Equipment	1	Smoke Detector Activation	3
Power Line Down	14	Alarm System Sounded, no fire	2
Arcing, shorted electrical equip.	16	Lightning Strike, no fire	1
Service Call, other	2		
		Total	394
Calls for Service including inspections	186		

Respectfully submitted,
William Ingalls
Fire Chief