

Fire Department

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Winthrop Fire Department is dedicated to protecting the citizens of Winthrop from fires and other emergency situations both natural and manmade and to responding to these and medical emergencies in an efficient, professional manner.

We are committed to providing and delivering these services through continuing training and education of both fire department personnel and members of the community, by consistent code enforcement and by maintaining an open, cooperative relationship with all other town departments and members of the community.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:

The Fire Department operates under the direction of the Chief of Department who is appointed by the Town Manager. The department's primary functions are to provide effective, efficient emergency and non-emergency services including, but not limited to, fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous material incident response, fire inspection/prevention duties, education and disaster planning. The department works on a daily basis with the other town departments in responding to incidents as well as implementing projects and goals established by the Town Council, Town Manager and Senior Management Team to evaluate policies, procedures and protocols. The Fire Chief is a member of the Capital Budget Team, Senior Management Team, Traffic Safety Advisory Committee and Harbor Management Team. Additionally the Chief of Department functions as the Emergency Management Director for the Town as well as being the Town's designated Jurisdictional Point of Contact (JPOC) for the Boston Urban Area Security collaborative (UASI), responsible for coordinating the homeland security projects and grant funding for all the town departments. Due to the overlapping responsibilities the operations of the Fire Department and Emergency Management Department are becoming inseparable.

The Fire Department consists of two divisions, suppression and inspections/prevention. Within the suppression division are four groups, each consisting of a Captain, Lieutenant and six firefighters. One Captain staff inspections/prevention. We operate out of two stations located on Pauline St. and Shirley St.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Obtained a 32' fireboat through government surplus to enhance waterside firefighting capability
- Developed a communications interoperability plan and equipment to ensure the ability to communicate during larger emergencies in conjunction with neighboring UASI communities
- Began the process of developing a permanent Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with the assistance of the Town Council and UASI partners
- Developed new protocols and procedures for harbor incidents in conjunction with the Police and Harbormaster departments
- Began the project to develop and implement a combined public safety dispatch center along with the Chief of Police

BUDGET ISSUES:

- Need for staffing support to continue “in process” projects as well as identifying operational areas needing improvement
- Maintenance of personnel and overtime funding to ensure adequate staffing of response units
- Long term capital planning for vehicle and building replacement

STAFFING:

Chief of Department, 5 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 24 Firefighters, 1 Department Clerk

Element Totals	FY2006 Expended	FY2007 Appropriated	FY2008 Dept Request	FY2008 Recommend
Compensation	1,914,660	1,892,016	2,165,597	2,140,597
Expenses	99,132	132,194	174,882	167,058
Total	2,013,792	2,024,210	2,340,479	2,307,655

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