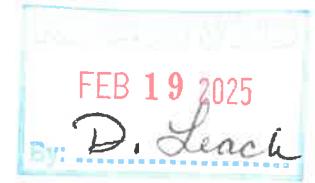


2024 MIFD YEAR END REPORT



With yet another year in the books the MIFD is able to look back with pride on the service we provided to the people and visitors of Mackinac Island. Although we had a pronounced uptick in runs over 2023, it wasn't anything out of the ordinary, nor did we see a concerning trend. Our biggest task in front of us is the succession planning that is imminent as The Chief and both Deputy Chiefs have announced their intent to retire in the coming 14 months.

TRAINING

The MIFD continues to hold monthly training sessions for the variety of runs we must prepare for. While getting time off for training in the summer isn't the easiest time to accommodate, I am pleased to report that our Island based full-time members are meeting the State required mandates and many are exceeding that. We continue to have our big weekend training with members of the Detroit Fire Department every February. Our live fire training center at the solid waste handling facility continues to be vital in our attempt to have the most realistic training that can be utilized.

PERSONNEL

In the spring we swore in 6 new members however age and attrition continue to threaten our ranks. We did open up hiring this fall and had four (4) applicants that are starting to put through the paces and evaluate their propensity and dedication for a potential fire academy that may be taught this fall. Volunteerism across the State and the Nation continues to plague the Volunteer Fire Service. We are fortunate here and we are once again the largest department by membership in the County, perhaps the EUP. Attrition due to age WILL BECOME A PROBLEM SOON.

AQUISITIONS

No major acquisitions were acquired this calendar year. Due to donations in memory of several locals to the Mackinac Island Firefighters Association, the Department through the Association has bought each member a brand new high quality flash light.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

As has been discussed in the past few reports, our SCBA is needing replacement as its coming to the end of its lifespan. Not an easy acquisition as the cost has soared in recent years. My last estimate to replace all SCBA has now doubled. It is something that will soon need to be addressed with the finance committee. Our yearly purchase of turnout gear has worked out great. About 5 years ago the department decided that rather than buy all new gear every 5 years that it would be easier to buy 5 or 6 new sets every year thus relieving the city of a big bill to cover every year.

FLEET SERVICES

The vehicle fleet remains in excellent condition. We were finally able to sell the former Squad 2 (white pick-up truck) and remove it from our ownership. For the most part the various vehicles took on various minor and routine repairs throughout the year. Members have spent significant time training on driving and operating the units to continue to prepare for retirement-based departures of the senior men.

FIRE PREVENTION

As you are aware, Fire Marshall Bradley has retired from service. In his absence, Chief St. Onge has assumed the roll of "acting Fire Marshall" however that position will need to be filled soon. Procedurally the Building Department and The Chief will probably come to a combined recommendation shortly after outgoing Building Official Dombrowski retires.

MAJOR INCIDENTS

Fortunately, despite an uptick in overall runs and fires, we are pleased to report that no major fires occurred in the calendar year. We did have another e-bike battery fire that drew the attention of the statewide media. The following breakdown shows our run and run volume.

False Alarms 100

Structure Fires 5

Storm/Severe Weather Responses 4

Bomb Threats 3

Water Resuce 2

EMS Assist: 1

Appliance Fires 1

Good Intent Call 1

Total Runs: 117

Submitted February 19, 2025