



MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORT

Thunderbolt Fire Rescue – Mission Statement

At Thunderbolt Fire Rescue, our mission is to **protect lives, property, and the environment** through dedicated service, rapid response, and professional excellence.

We are committed to serving the citizens and visitors of our community with **honor, integrity, and compassion**—providing fire suppression, emergency medical care, public education, and disaster response.

Through continuous training, teamwork, and community engagement, we strive to deliver the highest level of service, ensuring safety and resilience for all.

Thunderbolt Fire Rescue – Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a **leader in emergency services**, recognized for our **excellence, innovation, and commitment** to community safety.

We strive to build a department that is **highly trained, well-equipped, and deeply trusted**, always prepared to meet the evolving needs of the people we serve.

Through proactive outreach, progressive training, and a culture of respect and accountability, we aim to inspire **confidence, pride, and partnership** within our community.

Prepared by:

Odis Boyles

Chief of Thunderbolt Fire Department

Thunderbolt Fire Rescue

Monthly Report to the Town Council February 2026

During the month of February, Thunderbolt Fire Rescue responded to a total of **32 emergency calls for service**. These calls consisted of:

- **23 EMS calls**
- **5 fire-related incidents**
- **3 motor vehicle collisions**
- **1 watercraft rescue**

Our personnel continue to focus on both operational readiness and community safety initiatives throughout the town.

One of our ongoing initiatives is ensuring that **residential and commercial addresses are clearly posted and visible from the roadway**. Clearly marked addresses greatly assist emergency responders in locating properties quickly during emergencies, ultimately improving response times and patient outcomes.

Additionally, we have been visiting local businesses to educate owners and managers about **Click-to-Enter access systems**. These systems allow first responders rapid access to secured buildings during emergencies without causing property damage, while also improving firefighter and occupant safety.

Operationally, the department has been conducting **air quality testing and maintenance on our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** to ensure all life safety equipment is functioning properly and remains compliant with current safety standards.

Another notable development is that **Thunderbolt Fire Rescue now operates what is believed to be the first fire apparatus in Chatham County equipped entirely with electric-powered equipment**. This includes tools and equipment that traditionally relied on gas-powered systems. Transitioning to electric equipment improves reliability, reduces maintenance needs, decreases noise on emergency scenes, and aligns with modern fire service advancements.

Training for the month of February focused on both emergency medical and operational safety topics. Personnel participated in training on **medical triage procedures, distracted driving awareness for emergency vehicle operators, proper personal protective equipment (PPE) use and protection, and assessment and treatment of patients experiencing altered mental status**. These trainings help ensure our firefighters remain prepared to provide safe and effective emergency response.

Thunderbolt Fire Rescue remains committed to maintaining a high level of preparedness while continuing to serve and protect the residents and businesses of the Town of Thunderbolt.

Respectfully Submitted,