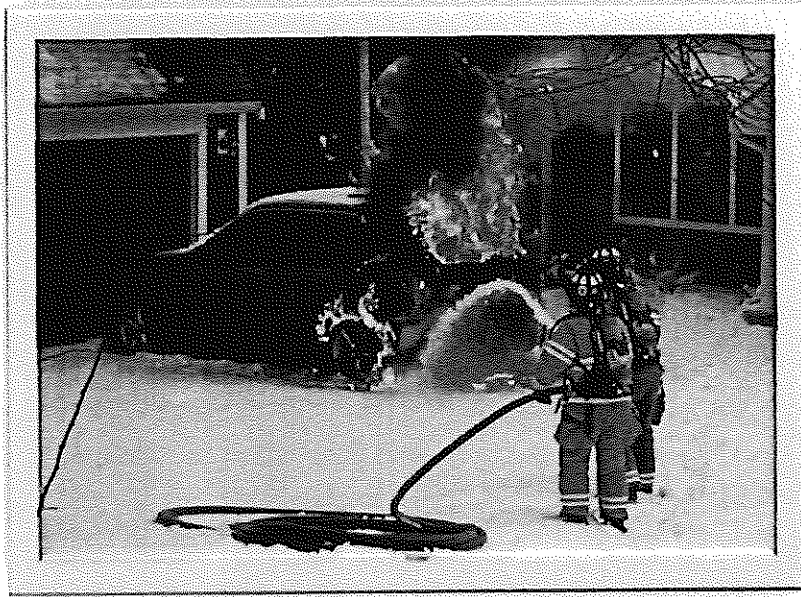


West Barnstable Fire District

Established July 12, 1949 by Chapter 107 Acts of 1949



2021 ANNUAL REPORTS

FY 2023

ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT MEETING WARRANT

**ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022 – 7:00 PM
West Barnstable Community Building
2377 Meetinghouse Way (Rte. 149)**



**District Meeting Election Voting 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Fire District Meeting begins at 7:00 PM**

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WEST BARNSTABLE VILLAGE DEMOGRAPHICS & DATA

Population:	3278 (02668 zip code/2010 US Census)
Population Density:	221 people per square mile
Median Age	53
Occupied Housing Units:	1279 (89.6% owner occupied)
Average People Per House	2
Households Without Children	953
Households With Children	263
Land Mass:	13.5 Square Miles
Highest Elevation:	232 feet above sea level
Lowest Elevation:	Sea Level
Elevation of Fire Station:	30 feet above sea level
Number of Fire Hydrants:	52
Percentage of Village with Hydrants:	10%
ISO Rating – Hydrant Areas:	Class 2
ISO Rating – Non-Hydrant Areas:	Class 4
Number of Street Lights:	91
Median Household Income:	\$100,379
Average Household Income:	\$120,190
Per-Capita Income:	\$52,923
Median Home Value:	\$536,598 (13.1% increase in 2020)

To view additional information about West Barnstable and your fire department, including the complete West Barnstable Community Risk Analysis, West Barnstable Fire Department Strategic Plan and the West Barnstable Fire Department Standards of Cover go to westbarnstablefiredistrict.com .



WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT

NOTICE TO FIRE DISTRICT VOTERS

FY 2023

**Annual Fire District Meeting
And Election of Fire District Officials**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022

Fire District Voting 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Fire District Meeting Starts at 7:00 PM

**West Barnstable Community Building
2377 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149)**

West Barnstable, MA 02668

FY 2023 Meeting Warrant Begins on Page 1

2021 ANNUAL REPORTS

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
Elected and Appointed Officials

Elected Officials

Moderator

Kate Mitchell

Term Expires 2023

Prudential Committee

W. Van Northcross, Chairman

Term Expires 2022

Edward C. Smith

Term Expires 2023

Dhiraj Malkani

Term Expires 2024

Board of Water Commissioners

Kristine Clark

Term Expires 2022

Mark S. Wirtanen, Chairman

Term Expires 2023

Lisa Hendrickson

Term Expires 2024

Appointed Officials

Elaine Grace, Clerk

Raymond Pirrone, Treasurer

Bernard Meyler, Accountant

Joseph V. Maruca, Fire Chief

David Paananen, Deputy Chief

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT of the
WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT**

March 1, 2021

To: Elaine L. Grace, Clerk of the West Barnstable Fire District

Greetings:

You are hereby directed to notify the voters of the West Barnstable Fire District to meet at the **West Barnstable Community Building, 2377 Meetinghouse Way** (Route 149), West Barnstable, Massachusetts, on **Wednesday, April 27, 2022** between the hours of **5:00 PM** and **7:00 PM** to bring their votes for the following officers:

One Prudential Committee member for three (3) years
One Water Commissioner for three (3) years

And immediately thereafter to meet and act upon the following **Articles**:

Article 1. To act upon the **2021 Reports of the Officers**, including the minutes of the previous Annual District meeting, as printed in the **2021 Annual Report**, and distributed to the voters of the West Barnstable Fire District. **(Prudential Committee recommends favorable action).**

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the **2023 Fiscal Year** beginning July 1, 2022, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and acts in amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of one year or less in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17. **(Prudential Committee recommends favorable action.)**

Article 3. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$5,125.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for streetlight service or take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$5,125.00)).**

Article 4. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Thirty Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$30,718.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for debt service or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) and raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$718.00) for a total sum of Thirty Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$30,718.00).**

Article 5. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Sixty-nine Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars (\$69,369.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for District Salaries for the following officers: Moderator, District Treasurer, District Accountant, District Clerk, Prudential Committee, and Records Access Officer or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-nine Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars (\$69,369.00)).**

Article 6. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifty-two Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-eight Dollars (\$52,848.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for the ordinary operating expenses of the District or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-two Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-eight Dollars (\$52,848.00)).**

Article 7. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **One Million Six Hundred Two Thousand Six Hundred Seven Dollars (\$1,602,607.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for the operation of the West Barnstable Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief, or to take any action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Two Thousand Six Hundred Seven Dollars (\$1,602,607.00)).**

Article 8. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Four Hundred Forty-one Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$441,312.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** to fund miscellaneous district obligations or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Seven Dollars (\$357,907.00), transfer and appropriate from the OPEB Trust Fund the sum of Forty-two Thousand Nine Hundred Five (\$42,905.00) and transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Forty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$40,500.00) for a total sum of Four Hundred Forty-one Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$441,312.00)**

Article 9. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Forty-three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$43,300.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** to the Reserve Fund or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$43,300.00)).**

Article 10. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** to the Stabilization Fund in **Fiscal Year 2023** or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash, the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000.00) for the General Stabilization Fund, and the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) for the Ambulance Stabilization Fund for a total sum of One Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$160,000.00)).**

Article 11. To if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$17,200.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** to fund audits (Financial, Cyber) of the West Barnstable Fire District for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends raise and appropriate the sum of Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$17,200.00)).**

Article 12. To if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for Whelden Memorial Library services, or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)).**

Article 13. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for the purchase of tires or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)).**

Article 14. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00)** for **Fiscal Year 2023** for miscellaneous capital repairs at the West Barnstable Fire Station Headquarters or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00)).**

Article 15. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)** from unexpended funds as approved and appropriated previously by the District under Article 14 of the Warrant for **Fiscal Year 2021** currently held as a Continuing Appropriation, such funds to be added to the funds established and appropriated by Article 13 of the Warrant for **Fiscal Year 2022** to be used for the purchase of an engine tanker, or take any other action relative thereto. **(Prudential Committee recommends transfer and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)).**

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting a copy thereof at the United States Post Office in West Barnstable, Whelden Memorial Library, and the West Barnstable Fire Headquarters, all located in West Barnstable, Massachusetts within said District, at least seven (7) days before the date of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 1st day of March 2022.

Prudential Committee
West Barnstable Fire District
W. Van Northcross, Chairman Edward C. Smith
Dhiraj Malkani

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST: Elaine L. Grace, District Clerk
West Barnstable Fire District

2021 REPORT OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

As the country slowly managed its way out of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic this past year, we saw things beginning to return to some semblance of normal here in West Barnstable. We still had to conduct our annual meeting last April in the fire station parking lot as we did the year before, but like the previous year we had more than double the number of residents needed for a quorum. We appreciate and thank all who attended. As more and more people were vaccinated and had boosters, our monthly committee meetings became a mix of people attending in person and on Zoom as we went about the normal work of maintaining and replacing equipment, meeting operational standards, recruiting and training – all while staying within the budget the annual meeting approved for us.

There were two new initiatives this year aimed at providing a revenue stream that would take some of the financial needs of the district off of homeowners. The first was our Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program. We sent letters to the owners of tax-exempt properties asking for a voluntary payment to the district. About twelve percent (12.2%) of the total value of the West Barnstable Fire District property is tax exempt. A total 4,996 acres of land or 67% of all land in West Barnstable is owned by tax exempt organizations. Additionally, thirty-five percent of all of the emergency incidents that the WBFD responds to each year are at these tax-exempt properties. The financial burden of supporting the fire department falls heavily upon the 1,174 West Barnstable families that pay taxes to support the WBFD. It is hoped that many of these tax-exempt properties will make voluntary donations to support the emergency services we provide to them.

So far, the PILOT program has been moderately successful. We have received several checks totaling \$3,804.50. In addition, we have received some in-kind services. The YMCA provides memberships to our staff at no charge so our staff can work-out and not use our small work-out facilities at the station. Our once sizable work-out facility was converted to office space. Cape Cod Community College provides management training to the staff of the WBFD at a 60% discounted price. The department has scheduled a series of six management classes for staff under this program. We appreciate all those who answered this call for assistance and we sincerely thank them. More information about PILOT can be found at the West Barnstable Fire District website wbfdems.org

Our other area of interest for providing a revenue stream for tax relief for our residents revolves around the Town of Barnstable's need to supply drinking water to Hyannis. This has led us to frequent meetings to support our Water Commissioners **Mark Wirtanen, Kris Clark, and Lisa Henderson** in their responsibilities. Currently West Barnstable has no water system. We are one of the few areas of Cape Cod without one. The town's immediate need is for about 1.87 million gallons of water per day. That need will grow substantially over the next twenty years. The town is looking at developing a well in West Barnstable in the Bridge Creek Conservation Area (behind the fire station) on land owned by the town. It is estimated that this site can supply about 5,000 gallons of water per minute. Most other sites tested supply only about 500 gallons of water per minute. West Barnstable sits atop a tremendous supply of fresh water.

The district owns two areas for development of water supply wells. The first is about 11.5 acres behind the fire station. We have a test well at this site. The second site is Meetinghouse Farm. Both sites were purchased by the residents of West Barnstable for water supply purposes.

It is our opinion that the legislation that created the West Barnstable Fire District as a water district and other state laws give us authority over all the water in West Barnstable (except for private wells at homes and farms) and that anyone who wants to take water from West Barnstable and sell it somewhere else needs our district's approval to do so. However, not everyone agrees with our opinion.

There are advantages to West Barnstable residents for having the town develop a well site behind our fire station and piping that water to Hyannis, but that will have to be negotiated. For instance, the residents and businesses along the path of the water mains would have fire hydrants and access to municipal water instead of private wells. Some other possible advantages to our residents include a sale of water to the town to help offset fire district expenses; access to excess water capacity for West Barnstable to develop a water system; and municipal water at the fire station. We are also concerned about potential pollution of private wells in West Barnstable, particularly with the finding PFOS/PFAS in water supplies across Cape Cod. If a private well fails or becomes polluted, our residents are on their own to deal with it. We think it is time for West Barnstable to start getting as many homes on municipal water as possible. Tapping into the town's plan for taking West Barnstable water to Hyannis presents an excellent opportunity to do this. It is our aim to negotiate a win-win collaboration or partnership with the town.

Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting on Wednesday evening, April 27th at 7:00pm. For the first time in three years we will be meeting at the Community Building on Route 149, yet another sign that we are putting the worldwide pandemic in the rearview mirror.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Van Northcross, Chairman
Edward C. Smith
Dhiraj Malkani

2021 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS

This year, the Town of Barnstable informed the West Barnstable Water Commissioners and the Prudential Committee that in their search for a potential future water supply well on town owned property, the best prospects were in Barnstable Village and West Barnstable Village. After several test wells were dug at these sites along the moraine in our town, the best performing wellsite was in West Barnstable within the Bridge Creek Conservation Area. The evaluation reports may be accessed on the West Barnstable Fire District's website as well on the Town of Barnstable's website:

<https://town.barnstable.ma.us/Departments/watersupply/Reports and Regulations/New-Source-Alternatives-Evaluation-Report.pdf?tm=2/11/2021%202:30:18%20PM>

[https://town.barnstable.ma.us/Departments/watersupply/Reports and Regulations/Source-Exploration-Report-\(Final\)-Volume-I-signed.pdf?tm=3/10/2022%2010:32:19%20AM](https://town.barnstable.ma.us/Departments/watersupply/Reports and Regulations/Source-Exploration-Report-(Final)-Volume-I-signed.pdf?tm=3/10/2022%2010:32:19%20AM)

[https://town.barnstable.ma.us/Departments/watersupply/Reports and Regulations/Source-Exploration-Report-\(Final\)-Volume-II-signed.pdf?tm=3/10/2022%2010:32:19%20AM](https://town.barnstable.ma.us/Departments/watersupply/Reports and Regulations/Source-Exploration-Report-(Final)-Volume-II-signed.pdf?tm=3/10/2022%2010:32:19%20AM)

We request that West Barnstable District residents NOT discard or flush oils, chemicals or prescription medicine anywhere except approved collection sites, given that they may adversely affect your or your neighbor's water well. The Hazardous Waste collection days are at the Town Transfer Station. The four collection days in Barnstable in 2022 are: April 2, June 25, August 27 and September 24 from 9am to noon. To safely dispose of unwanted medications, all 15 towns on Cape Cod have an anonymous and free drop-off kiosk in their police department lobbies. For more information see the Barnstable County website on Unwanted Medications.

<https://www.capecodextension.org/project/unwanted-medications/>

<https://www.capecodextension.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/safe-meds-disposal-brochure.pdf>

The Groundwater Foundation and the Center for Disease Control recommend testing a drinking water well annually for selected parameters. The Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment recommends annual testing for (at minimum) coliform bacteria, pH, specific conductance, sodium and nitrates. More comprehensive testing for copper, iron, manganese, total dissolved solids, lead and a suite of volatile organic compounds should be done every three years. Depending on potential sources of contamination in your area, we might recommend testing for other parameters. If you would like to discuss sampling you can call the Barnstable County Water Quality Laboratory at 508-375-6605. Routine Well Analysis costs \$55.

During the annual district election in April 2021, Lisa Hendrickson was elected as Commissioner, replacing Arne Ojala, who retired from the position. We owe a huge debt of thanks to Arne for his decades of volunteer service to the district, bringing his depth of professional experience as a long-time engineer as well as his decades of institutional knowledge about the geology and past history of water use in our district. We continue to rely on Arne's expertise for information as we address a new chapter in the district's future of water concerns in West Barnstable.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Wirtanen, Chair

Kris Clark, Clerk

Lisa Hendrick

FY2021 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT TREASURER

The Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) books are closed and all the requisite financial statements and reports for that period have been filed with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR). Our firm of independent accountants, Roselli Clark and Associates, has completed the annual audit and their report is available for you online at the district website. <http://westbarnstablefiredistrict.com>

The district FY21 operations resulted in underspent budget appropriations of \$319,423. In addition, local receipts – primarily ambulance services – generated \$156,396 more revenue than estimated in the FY21 budget. These two positive variances plus the unused Free Cash from the prior year of \$66,739 resulted in DOR Certified Free Cash of \$390,555 as of June 30, 2021. This free cash as well as funds from Stabilization (\$417,082) and Special Revenue (\$28,878) are available for use at the 2022 Annual District Meeting.

Another positive result was a decline in this year's property tax rate. The 2022 tax rate of \$2.47 reflects a \$0.15 reduction from last year's rate. The increase in property values in the district of 8.9% offset the 2.7% increase in net appropriations resulting in the 5.7% tax rate decrease.

This tax rate was set in a timely manner with the assistance of R. Lane Partridge, the Director of Assessing for the Town of Barnstable and we thank him for that assistance. In addition, we want to thank Debra Blanchette, Town Treasurer/Collector, for the collection of District taxes and her assistants Gislaine Morse and JoAnna Callahan for their many efforts on behalf of the District. Finally, we want to thank Susan Rao for her excellent work as Accountant for the District over the past years and wish her well in her retirement.

The following reports are included as part of this narrative for your reference. These reports include several FY21 year-end financial statements of the District; the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023; and select historical data. These reports are prepared using the modified cash basis which is the mandated Massachusetts method for District reporting. The audit report is based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for municipalities. The notable differences between these two methods are the use of the full accrual method, recognition of pension and post-retirement liabilities, and the fixed assets and related depreciation which is included in the GAAP based statements in the audit report but omitted from the modified cash basis presented here.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service and I look forward to serving you in the next fiscal year. I am always available to provide additional information or answer questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Pirrone
District Treasurer

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
Fiscal Year 2023

Article	Group / Line Item	FY 2019 ACTUAL	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 ACTUAL	FY 2022 BUDGET	FY 2023 PROPOSED	% Change
3	Street Lights						
	Street Lighting	1,778	1,822	1,763	3,300	3,383	2.5%
	Street Light Repair & Maintenance	29	-	306	500	513	2.5%
	Street Light Replacement	616	-	-	1,200	1,230	2.5%
	Total Street Lights	2,423	1,822	2,068	5,000	5,125	2.5%
	Debt Services						
	Interest Expense	3,750	7,479	30,000	2,415	718	-70.3%
	Long Term Debt	-	60,000	5,236	30,000	30,000	0.0%
4	Total Debt Services	3,750	67,479	35,236	32,415	30,718	-5.2%
	District Salaries						
	Moderator	-	-	100	50	50	0.0%
	Prudential Committee Salary	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0%
	District Accountant	19,419	21,024	24,307	22,965	23,539	2.5%
	District Treasurer	26,954	17,113	24,815	21,112	21,640	2.5%
	Records Access Officer	-	-	6,273	6,556	16,640	153.8%
	District Clerk	5,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0.0%
5	Total District Salaries	53,374	45,637	62,995	58,183	69,369	19.2%
	District Expenses						
	Assessing / Tax Collection	3,626	3,626	3,626	7,650	4,000	-47.7%
	Bank Service Charges	1,328	1,300	1,255	2,000	2,050	2.5%
	Professional Services	1,000	3,026	-	4,000	1,100	-72.5%
	FICA / Medicare	17,625	17,472	17,274	19,828	21,398	7.9%
	Life Insurance	185	151	165	250	200	-20.0%
	Legal	1,908	5,704	10,812	2,000	7,000	250.0%
	Prudential Committee Operation	10,128	11,585	12,504	10,000	12,500	25.0%
	Payroll Services	2,646	2,772	2,794	3,000	3,100	3.3%
	Water Commission Operation	537	-	-	500	1,500	200.0%
6	Total District Expenses	38,984	45,635	48,429	49,228	52,848	7.4%

Fire Department									
Fire Department Payroll									
	Fire Chief	111,427	115,828	138,068	140,938	144,461	2.5%		
	Deputy Fire Chief	100,391	104,395	129,533	132,225	135,531	2.5%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Career	315,857	369,431	390,158	413,476	440,244	6.5%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Adm. Asst.	25,563	23,783	21,263	26,629	27,295	2.5%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Call/Volunteer Wages	71,187	137,751	118,141	130,000	133,250	2.5%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Part Time Firefighters	92,139	99,632	110,861	100,000	120,000	20.0%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Career Over Time	248,407	206,591	184,384	253,500	264,146	4.2%		
	Fire Dept. Payroll, Training	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	0.0%		
	Fire Dept. Compensated Absences	38,792	-	-	-	-	-		
	Fire Dept. Payroll Subtotal	1,003,763	1,057,409	1,092,408	1,216,768	1,284,927	5.6%		
Fire Department Operations									
	FD Operation - Admin	32,435	28,498	32,261	32,300	36,958	14.4%		
	FD Operation - Facilities Maintenance	44,730	50,354	41,040	49,850	56,096	12.5%		
	FD Operation - Equipment Maintenance	53,319	52,025	77,947	53,050	71,055	33.9%		
	FD Operation - New Equipment	11,954	25,531	32,862	9,000	21,358	137.3%		
	FD Operation - Uniforms	3,692	8,541	4,603	7,975	8,475	6.3%		
	FD Operation - Ambulance	22,582	22,924	21,486	26,800	28,045	4.6%		
	FD Operation - Personnel Training	17,348	26,481	15,385	35,000	35,875	2.5%		
	FD Operation - Other Expenses	50,642	54,693	47,809	58,360	59,819	2.5%		
	Fire Dept. Non-Payroll Subtotal	236,703	268,997	273,393	272,335	317,680	16.7%		
7	Total Fire Department	1,240,466	1,326,406	1,365,801	1,489,103	1,602,607	7.6%		
Miscellaneous									
	County Retirement	113,911	126,295	132,976	154,413	164,059	6.2%		
	Employee Health Insurance - Active Employees	145,381	95,242	97,091	91,386	101,495	11.1%		
	Retiree Health Insurance		40,577	40,622	38,569	42,905	11.2%		
	General Insurance	77,892	84,289	84,783	90,100	92,353	2.5%		
	Transfer to OPEB Trust	54,000	70,000	80,000	129,000	40,500	-68.6%		
8	Total Miscellaneous	391,184	416,403	435,472	503,468	441,312	-12.3%		
9	Reserve Fund	-	-	-	35,000	43,300	23.7%		

Other Financing Uses								
	Stabilization Fund - General	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	130,000	420.0%	
	Stabilization Fund - Ambulance	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.0%	
	Stabilization Fund - Critical Health/Illness		5,000	2,500	2,500	-	-100.0%	
10	Total Other Financing Uses	55,000	60,000	57,500	57,500	160,000	178.3%	
11	Audit	12,000	13,200	14,200	15,000	17,200	14.7%	
	Purchase New Turnout Gear (PPE)	20,000	10,000	-	-	-		
12	Library Funding	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000		
	Operating	1,812,180	1,991,582	2,036,702	2,259,897	2,437,479	7.9%	
	Capital Outlays							
	Replace Ambulance 293					5,000		
13	Tires	6,700						
	Fire Hose	6,500						
	Corrosion Repair Tanker 286			15,000	-	-		
15	Used Engine to Replace Ladder Truck			50,000	-	(50,000)		
	Pickup Truck	25,000						
	Replace Engine 296				650,000	50,000		
	Capital Improvements at Fire Station				20,000	12,000		
14	Total Capital Outlays	38,200	-	65,000	670,000	17,000		
	Total FY Expended/Budgeted Appropriations	2,067,929	2,112,029	2,236,926	2,929,897	2,454,479		

**WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
TAXATION COMPARISON
FY 2019 TO FY 2022 WITH FY 2023 PROPOSED**

	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Budget	FY 2023 Proposed
Total Appropriations	\$2,067,929	\$2,112,029	\$2,236,926	\$2,929,897	\$2,454,410
Overlay/Deficits	16,544	16,998	10,000	9,464	10,000
Total Amount to Be Raised	2,084,473	2,129,027	2,246,926	2,939,361	2,464,410
Ambulance Fees	225,000	225,000	252,953	239,800	240,000
Local Receipts		15,000	13,953	14,800	15,000
Debt Funding				300,000	
Free Cash	121,700	95,000	167,500	262,500	277,500
Overlay Surplus				90,000	
OPEB Trust Fund	30,500	40,577	40,622	38,569	42,905
Stabilization & Other	6,500			160,000	
Local Revenue and Other Funding Sources	383,700	375,577	475,028	1,105,669	575,405
Tax Levy	1,700,773	1,753,450	1,771,898	1,833,692	1,889,005
increase	5.77%	3.10%	1.05%	3.49%	3.02%
Property Values	611,788,960	637,618,020	681,622,670	742,304,310	742,304,310
increase	5.77%	4.22%	6.90%	8.90%	0.00%
Tax Rate	\$2.78	\$2.75	\$2.62	\$2.47	\$2.55
increase	0.00%	-1.08%	-4.73%	-5.71%	3.01%
Residential Parcel Count	1154	1160	1161	1161	1161
Residential Parcel Value	541,143,500	568,752,600	601,054,600	659,572,400	659,572,400
increase	6.42%	5.10%	5.68%	9.74%	0.00%
Average Residential Property Value	468,929	490,304	517,704	568,107	568,107
Average Residential Tax Bill	\$1,304	\$1,348	\$1,356	\$1,403	\$1,451
increase	6.24%	3.43%	0.60%	3.46%	3.00%

**2021 Fire Chief's Annual Report
West Barnstable Fire Department
Chief Joseph V. Maruca**

The West Barnstable Fire Department (WBFD) responded to 664 emergency incidents in 2021. This is the second highest number of emergencies ever recorded by the department. In 2015, the WBFD responded to 760 emergencies. The five-year average number of emergencies is 640 per year and the ten-year average is 648 per year. The annual volume of emergencies in West Barnstable is stable at about 640 emergency calls per year.

While the overall number of emergency calls is stable, there are changes in the mix of emergency types. The number of serious motor vehicle accidents is trending downward. The WBFD peaked with motor vehicle crashes in 2005 when we responded to a total of 89 crashes and 52 of them had injuries. In 2020 crashes fell to 43 crashes and 27 of them with injuries, their lowest level in about 25 years.

**Annual Emergency Call Volume
Calendar Year**

1975: 156	2011: 649
1980: 309	2012: 608
1985: 326	2013: 654
1990: 305	2014: 630
1995: 396	2015: 760
2000: 431	2016: 629
2005: 536	2017: 628
2010: 567	2018: 661
	2019: 609
	2020: 629
	2021: 664

I believe that there are a couple of reasons for the reduction in motor vehicle crashes. First, roadway improvements on RT 132 and at the RT 149 roundabout, and improved drainage on RT 6, and improved lighting all play a role in fewer crashes. Second, automatic braking and warning systems are becoming more common. Ten of the major car manufactures provide automatic braking on all their 2022 models. As these automated safety features become more common, I expect to see fewer crashes and crashes of less severity. Additionally, we are seeing fewer injuries and less severe injuries because of the many safety systems engineered into cars. I can see a day in the future when driverless cars with highly effective safety systems rarely crash and the people in them are highly protected from the crashes that do occur.

The number of patients the WBFD takes to the hospital in the ambulance (A-293) has stayed between 342 and 216 over the past ten years, but it bounces around without much of a pattern. In 2020, we only transported 216 patients to the hospital. This is significantly fewer patient transports than our ten-year average of 306 patients. In 2021, our patient count increased by 53 patients to 280 patients. My sense is that the low number of patients in 2020 was a result of pandemic fear and people not calling for us. We are now seeing our patient count recovering.

In the related topic of ambulance billing revenue, 2021 saw us increase our ambulance billing revenue by 29% over the prior year. This is significant improvement and well exceeded our projections. At the same time,

Overlapping Emergency Calls

2021	66 calls	10%
2020	35 calls	6%
2019	43 calls	7%
2018	90 calls	14%
2017	74 calls	12%
2016	52 calls	8%
2015	93 calls	12%
2014	64 calls	10%

Overlapping emergency calls is when we get a 2nd or 3rd emergency while we are still handling the 1st emergency

amount we collect per patient did not increase, so the increase is solely the result of more patients. Medicare (and its cousins – Medicaid, MassHealth, Etc.) represented 67% of our patient insurance in 2021. Medicare has been the majority payer of our ambulance bills since 2014 and there is no indication that that will change.

Medicare pays us an average of \$417 to take a patient to the hospital. Private insurance (Blue Cross, Tufts, Harvard, Etc.) pays us an average of \$2986 per patient. We average \$24 from people without any insurance. As our community ages, we have more patients on Medicare and fewer with private insurance. It doesn't cost less to transport a Medicare patient to the hospital than it does a private insurance patient, so the shift towards more Medicare patients is placing more pressure on us financially.

A Phoenix Rises –Ladder 297

Two years ago, we took WBFD Ladder 297 out of service because of structural rust problems. After getting a bid of \$280,000 to repair the truck, we decided it was better to get rid of the truck and purchase a used fire engine in its place. You voted to provide us with \$50,000 to purchase a used truck.

We spent the next year looking for a decent \$50,000 engine. It proved harder to find than we expected. We found lots of \$50,000 engines, but most had rust or other problems that didn't qualify them as a good investment.

In the meantime, **Captain Bill Murray** started researching alternate ways to repair Ladder 297 and save it. He succeeded. Last year, under Captain Murray's leadership, we found a professional welding shop in Middleborough, Massachusetts that said it could cut out the rusted steel and replace it. And, they said they could do the job for about \$18,000. At that price, firefighters would have to do most of the prep work, and finish work. **Deputy Chief David Paananen** had to get prior clearance from UL (formerly known as Underwriters Laboratory) that the repairs would meet standards and the truck would pass its UL inspection. Once we got the go ahead, Captain Murray coordinated the repairs.

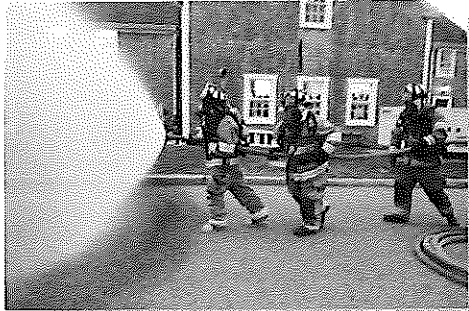
Many of our firefighters helped with sanding, cutting, disassembling of some body parts, and prepping the truck for the repairs. The truck went to **Clancy Welding & Fabrication** in Middleborough, MA, a welding shop that does bridge repairs for the Commonwealth. They did great work. The new metal was primed and painted by **M & R Auto Body** in Whitman, MA. Ladder 297 passed its UL inspection on August 20, 2021 and is now back serving our community.

I expect that we will get at least five years and up to ten years of service from Ladder 297. This is good investment because the total cost of the rust repairs, materials and painting was about \$30,000. Over five years, that is only \$6000 per year, and over ten years it is \$3000 per year. I think that five to ten years additional service is realistic for a 2002 model. Ten years from now it will be thirty years old.

Thank you to Captain Bill Murray for taking the initiative to solve the Ladder 297 problem.

COVID Again

I had hoped I wouldn't be writing about COVID again in my 2021 report, but it continued to affect the community and our operations last year to such an extent that we couldn't ignore it. In some ways, 2021 was more difficult from a COVID operations perspective than 2020.



2020 was exhausting and we struggled with all kinds of new problems brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. 2021 didn't give us a break and left us even more exhausted, mentally as much or more than physically. We now generally understand COVID-19 and there is less fear around it. However, the continuing waves of variants, rapidly changing guidance, and a lot of variation on who should do what and when between agencies, entities, and individuals made managing our operations difficult.

Over the course of 2021, the fire station was closed to the public on two lengthy occasions. Public events at the fire station were suspended, and public government meetings operated in hybrid form (mixed in-person and online). The department had more firefighters sick with COVID in 2021 than we did in 2020.

Getting supplies and equipment was unpredictably difficult. Medical supplies have suddenly gotten easier to get than in 2021 but getting fire helmets is almost impossible. We had to cancel or reschedule a lot of training.

Most of the WBFD staff, about 90%, are fully vaccinated.

As we came to the end of 2021, the fire station was open for routine public business. You can come in for blood pressure checks, to use the bathroom, ask for directions, pick up documents, get a burning permit and make appointments and so on. Short, socially distanced encounters are low risk, and we feel we can safely manage these kinds of contacts. We've resumed our normal training schedule and hope we can keep it operating as normal.

ISO Audit

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) conducted its audit of the firefighting and fire prevention capabilities of the West Barnstable Fire Department. The results of this audit won't be known until sometime in 2022.

The ISO audits each of the 30,000 fire departments in the United States about every five years. The audit results in each department getting a rating of between 1 and 10. A Class 1 is the best and a Class 10 means no effective fire protection. The WBFD is currently rated as a Class 2 when operating within 1000' of a fire hydrant and as a Class 4 when operating without fire hydrants. Very few fire departments without hydrants ever achieve a rating much higher than a Class 8. As a Class 2 department we are among the 15% highest rated departments in the country.

The ISO looks at staffing, training, fire prevention/code enforcement, community risk reduction, trucks and equipment, water supply, and communication systems when rating each department.

I'm hoping that the current audit will result in the WBFD moving up a notch and gain an ISO Class 1 rating. That would put us in the top 5% of fire departments. However, it is long shot for a mostly volunteer fire department of our size to be able to meet the staffing and training standards necessary to be rated Class 1.

In 2005, when I took over as Fire Chief, the WBFD had an ISO Rating of Class 9.

Training

In 2021, the WBFD conducted 5922 man-hours of training for an average of 121 hours of training per firefighter. Compared to our peers (nationally and statewide) this is a lot of training and more than most. Compared to ourselves, this is a reduction in training.

Over the past few years our training participation has been dropping as follows:

2018: 193 Hours/Member
2019: 169 Hours/Member
2020: 144 Hours/Member
2021: 121 Hours/Member

I expected to see training drop in 2020 because the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted our training schedule and resulted in canceled training. I expected to see a recovery in 2021 and see training increase over 2020. As I look at these numbers, I am concerned about the trend towards less training. The overall drop in training since 2018 is too big to be ignored.

As we move ahead into 2022, we will be studying and reviewing this issue with staff, and working to reverse the trend.



The WBFD trains almost every Tuesday night at the fire station. New recruits also train on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings until they pass their state firefighter certification test.

The Budget

The WBFD is requesting that you approve our Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) budget of \$2,337,377. Last year's budget was \$2,939,897. This year's budget will require a 3.12% increase in the tax levy from \$1,834,028 to \$1,891,172.

While the WBFD is not subject to Proposition 2 ½, our goal is to operate within the Proposition 2 ½ real estate tax increase formula, and this year's increase falls within what would be allowed if we were subject to Proposition 2 ½. (While it is called Proposition 2 ½, and people tend to speak of the increase allowed under this law as limiting tax increases to 2 ½ %, that's not the real outcome of the formula. Typically, cities and towns can raise taxes in the 3 to 3 ¼ % range without a Proposition 2 ½ override.)

The average property tax increase for the West Barnstable Fire District has been 2 ½% per year for the past decade.

This year's budget has no new programs or initiatives. It is a level services budget. This is in part because we have experienced 7% inflation over the past year, and we expect high inflation to continue for 2022. With a 3.12% increase in our budget, it will be tight to simply maintain our current operations.

We will also be asking you to vote to repurpose the \$50,000 that you appropriated in FY 2021 for the purchase of a used fire engine. Since we don't need to replace Ladder 297, we won't be purchasing the used engine and these funds are no longer needed for that purpose. Instead, we are asking (in Article 14 of the FY2023 Annual District Warrant) that you allocate those funds to the purchase of a new engine-tanker.

Last year, you appropriated \$650,000 to replace our 1985 engine tanker. Since then, the price of fire trucks has increased significantly and continues to rise. The manufacturers are telling us that prices had been increasing at 4% per year for the past few years, and we should expect prices to increase even more in 2022. What we thought we could purchase for \$650,000 eighteen months ago when we planned the purchase of new engine-tanker will no longer purchase a similar replacement.

Repurposing the money will not increase real estate taxes.

The WBFD is also asking that you approve spending \$5000 from free cash to purchase truck tires. Our Engine 294 will need eight new tires in 2023. These tires cost about \$500 to \$600 each. Additionally, our air supply trailer and generator trailer are currently in need of new tires. The use of free cash will not require increasing the tax levy for this purchase. In the current fiscal year, we replaced the ten tires on Ladder 297 that cost \$600 each. Tire companies tell us to expect a big jump in prices.

More Grant Success

The WBFD received \$172,598.00 in grant money in 2021. The biggest grant came from FEMA and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG). This grant provided the WBFD with \$121,125.00 to purchase new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or "air-packs". The grant also provided \$41,473.80 for the department to change its auto extrication tools from hydraulic to battery- electric. **Deputy Chief David Paananen** wrote and managed this grant. This moved two expensive projects off our immediate capital replacement plan and moved them out 15 years. (The WBFD's Capital Plans are available for viewing at the district's website.)

Our SCBA were 15 years old and at the end of their life. Our repair and maintenance costs for the



old SCBA were climbing fast, so this grant came at a good time. SCBA are critical safety devices for our firefighters, and they were rapidly approaching obsolescence. The WBFD has seventeen SCBA.

Hydraulic extrication tools were introduced in the early 1970s and have been the industry standard until now. Battery operated tools are taking over. They are quiet, require less maintenance, are more mobile, and don't have the potential environmental issues of leaking hydraulic fluids.

Additionally, the WBFD received a \$10,000 grant for ice rescue gear and suits, and for structural firefighting coats & pants from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. We also received a \$2000 grant from the federal Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Program for wildland firefighting gloves and fire shelters.

Volunteer Staffing is the Key to WBFD Operations

I'm still surprised by how many people in West Barnstable don't realize that the WBFD is primarily a volunteer fire department. We have seven full-time staff (including chief and deputy chief), five part-time staff and about forty volunteers. Without the volunteers we wouldn't have sufficient staffing to meet the mission.

Think of our career staff as being the framework or bones of the operation and our volunteers as providing the muscle. A key element of why the WBFD continues to succeed as a primarily volunteer fire department is our use of professional management to recruit, train, and manage a large volunteer force. Managing volunteers is more complex than managing full-time firefighters. You need between four and six times as many volunteers to provide the same level of staffing as a single career firefighter. Volunteers require all the same training, equipment, and human resources management as full time staff.

The WBFD organizes its volunteers into four response groups with a career fire officer leading the group. Each group is on-duty for routine emergency response about eight nights each month. Volunteers also respond 24/7 to complex emergencies such as building fires and hazmat incidents.

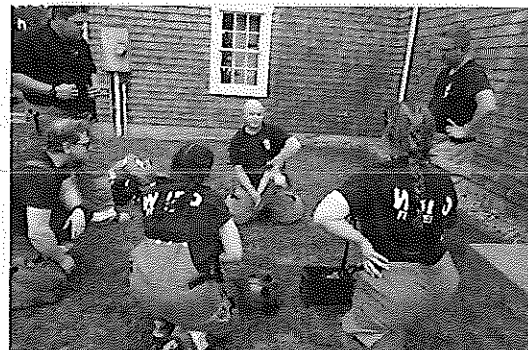
The WBFD's career staff are instrumental in hiring, training, and leading the volunteer staff. Most of our volunteers do not live in West Barnstable anymore. Many of them come from Hyannis, Centerville, Marstons Mills, Sandwich, and Barnstable. Some come from as far away as Falmouth, Harwich, and Orleans. One, Firefighter/EMT Molly Herbert, lives in Boston and spends a weekend each month volunteering at our fire station.

Curtis Graduates

Lieutenant Curtis Cottrell graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's (MFA) Career Recruit Class on December 17, 2022. The WBFD sends all its career firefighters to attend the MFA's 10-week basic firefighter recruit class. Typically, fire departments in Massachusetts send their new members almost immediately upon hiring. The WBFD doesn't have funds to send more than one person a year, so Curtis attended in his third year with the department. He attended the program at the Springfield campus. Congratulations to Curtis.

Lieutenant Luke Walsh is scheduled to attend the MFA's recruit class in 2022.

It costs the WBFD about \$33,000 to send one person to the MFA for their recruit class. Most of the cost, about \$24,000, is in overtime to cover the attendee's shifts while they are at the fire academy. The rest is in housing, meals, books, uniforms, and protective equipment. The class



itself is provided free of charge by the Commonwealth.

Turnover Continues

The WBFD continues to train firefighters that are then hired by our neighboring career fire departments into full-time jobs. In 2021, nine volunteer members of the WBFD left us for full-time jobs with other departments, and one firefighter left us due to time constraints (“work- life – volunteering balance”).

The Truro Fire Department hired two of our new 2021 recruits from us even before they finished their initial training. Volunteers **Kate Dorsey** and **Braden Wilson** were both hired by the Truro FD. In what may be a testament to our training, both went straight to work as career firefighters, without additional training, even though they had yet to finish our training and be qualified as firefighters for West Barnstable. Both Kate and Braden were members of WBFD Group 2.

After almost three years volunteering with the WBFD, **Seamus Murray** took a career position with the Falmouth Fire Department. Shortly after, he left Falmouth for a position at the Hyannis Fire Department.



Volunteer Firefighter/EMT **Mike Kent** went to the Dennis Fire Department after having served one and half years with the WBFD. Mike was a member of Group 1.

The Eastham Fire Department hired two WBFD volunteers, **Mike Looney** and **Matt Antoine**. Mike served the WBFD as a volunteer firefighter/EMT for four years and Matt Antoine served for three years. Matt had just become a paramedic when he was offered the full-time job. Both were members of Group 2.

Ryan DiPilato went to the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills (COMM) Fire Department in 2021. Ryan was a member of Group 3 and volunteered with us for three years.

Devon Crowl left us for a full-time position with the Mashpee Fire Department. Devon had been volunteering with us for almost three years and was a member of Group 4.

Also going to the Falmouth Fire Department was **Abijah Herrin**. Abijah was a Group 2 member who joined the WBFD in 2020.

Leaving the department to better manage the family-work-volunteering balance was volunteer **Lieutenant Christian Andrewski**. Christian served for five years with the WBFD. This is a long tenure for our department. He was an accomplished driver-operator of all our apparatus. He was the Executive Officer of Group 3.

In April 2021, the WBFD hired one of its largest groups of new volunteer firefighters. It added thirteen new members: **Ernie Cox, Allyssa Llorentty, Sean Clifford, James Stergis, Ryan Friel, Kyle Hein,**



Jacob Riker, Quantez Franklin, Chloe Higginbotham, Jennifer Lannon, Alex Smith, Kate Dorsey, and Braden Wilson. They started their firefighter training in April and were ready to start responding to emergency calls on July 1st. However, their training continued through the end of the year and they (except for Dorsey and Wilson who took jobs at Truro FD) are scheduled to take their state firefighter certification test in February 2022.

Why Volunteers?

If we keep training volunteers and having them hired away from us, why do we keep up the volunteer force? I could write a book on this topic, but instead I'll focus on two key elements that are specific to West Barnstable.

A large volunteer fire & EMS force gives us greater operational abilities than our peers, allowing us to provide service on par with the top 10% to 15% of fire and ambulance departments in the country. Safely extinguishing a one or two room fire in a house typically requires between 12 and 17 firefighters. Finding, treating, and removing an injured person from Sandy Neck or the WB Conservation Area requires 8 to 12 firefighters. It usually takes 6 or 8 firefighters to attend to a motor vehicle crash on Route 6, and another four or five if we need to cut a patient out of car.

The WBFD typically responds to a fire with 12 to 17 firefighters on three trucks. Without volunteers, we won't be able to do this. And, without fire hydrants, we need at least 15 to 17 extra firefighters at any serious fire just to shuttle water from hydrants in neighboring towns.

For instance, another department in our region of the state with a similar population and emergency incident volume has an operating budget of about twice what the WBFD has, yet it can only staff one truck – either an ambulance or a fire engine. Without a volunteer force this department relies upon three career firefighters on-duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This limits their operational abilities to what you can provide with one crew. This requires a career staff of fourteen people, or twice the career staffing and twice the budget of the WBFD.

If the WBFD were to give up its hybrid staffing model, we would have to double our budget to about \$3.5 million to provide basic, not superior service. Your tax bills would double. The lack of businesses to pay taxes and a small number of residents to pay taxes in West Barnstable is a significant limiting factor in how to staff the WBFD.

While most people focus on the financial cost of training firefighters for our neighbors, it really isn't as big a factor as it appears. The bigger issue is the physical and mental wear on the small core of instructors and leaders that make our system work. It can be exhausting to keep up with the cycle of hiring and training new firefighters.

We are concerned that five to ten years from now we won't have enough 18- to 30-year-olds living on Cape Cod to provide us with a supply of new volunteers. And we are finding that fewer people want to be firefighters – career or volunteer. The job lacks the attraction it once had when hundreds would apply for one job. Now, we are lucky to get three or five applicants for a career job.

While I feel confident that we can keep recruiting and training volunteers to meet our needs for the next three to five years, I think that ten years from now we will have to make significant adjustments based upon demographic changes and changes to our mission.

Administrative Staff Changes

At the end of 2021, our Accountant, **Susan Rao**, retired. Susan had served as the WBFD's part-time accountant since 2018. Susan is a CPA who was retired from an impressive career in private sector accounting. Susan did great work. She paid our bills, managed our payroll, and did a lot of specialty accounting that helped us manage our budget. Susan left to spend more time traveling and with family.

Joining the WBFD as its new Accountant, is **Bernie Meyler**. Bernie is a CPA who is retired after serving as Comptroller of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and several other public positions. The accounting position is part-time with a schedule of about 20 hours per week.

Nanette Jacob, our Records Access Officer (RAO), also left us in 2021 to move to Florida. Also, a part-time position, the RAO manages our filing system, records retention compliance, and public records requests. **Jennifer Sonnabend** has joined us as our new RAO. Jennifer has thirty years of public service in law enforcement and education.



Welcome Bernie and Jennifer.

Of the Year Awards - 2021

The West Barnstable Firefighter of the Year 2021 is Firefighter/Engineer **Austin Moloney**. This was Austin's second win in a row. Austin is an accomplished member of the WBFD. He is an Engineer, and this means he is a skilled driver-operator of all the department's trucks and equipment. He is a member Group 4. Austin is an accomplished instructor. He joined the department as a volunteer in 2019 and he currently fills a part-time firefighter position on Mondays from 8AM to 6PM. Austin manages our small truck preventive maintenance program.

Winning the Fire Officer of the Year award was Lieutenant **Steven Frye**. Steve has been with the WBFD for eight years, first as a volunteer and then as part-time firefighter. Steve's part-time shift is every Friday from 8AM to 6PM. In addition to his fire and EMS duties, he handles grounds maintenance at the fire station. Steve is also a key fire instructor for the department. He served as the Group 2 Executive Officer until moving over to fill that position on Group 3.

There was a tie for EMT of Year. Volunteer Firefighter/EMT **Collin Sylvester** and career Lieutenant/EMT **Luke Walsh** are sharing the 2021 EMT award. Collin started his volunteering career at the WBFD in 2019 as a Barnstable High School Intern. Luke joined the WBFD as a volunteer in 2015 and became a career firefighter in 2020. Luke works our dayshift, Tuesday through Friday from 8AM to 6PM.

Pension System & OPEB

In past reports I've said that our pension system, the Barnstable County Pension System, was actuarially sound and that our annual payments covered all costs. I wrong on this point. I discovered that our pension is on the road to being actuarially sound, but it isn't there yet. The system is on track to be fully funded in 2034. It is about 67% funded now.

The fire district makes an annual pension contribution for its seven full-time employees. The rules and laws of the pension system determine the contribution amounts. The FY 2023 payment will be \$164,059. This is about 22% of our full-time payroll. (Overtime does not count towards pensions and therefore isn't part of the calculation.) A substantial part of this payment is for catching up on payments that should have been made systemwide thirty or more years ago. The district does not pay into Social Security (6.2% of payroll including overtime). Once the system is fully funded, the district's annual pension payments should drop significantly.

As one of the seven full-time employees of the district, I pay 9% of my salary, plus a 2% surcharge of my salary in excess of \$30,000, into the Barnstable County Pension. This in place of making a 6.2% payment to Social Security. Since I don't pay into Social Security and the district doesn't pay into Social Security, I don't get any Social Security benefits from my position as fire chief. I will get social security because I worked as a private sector attorney for 25 years before becoming fire chief, but there is a public pension penalty that will reduce my social security benefit.



I hope this better helps you understand the public pension system that the WBFD is part of.

The other big retirement benefit for public employees is retiree health insurance. This is known as OPEB or Other Post Retirement Benefits. For instance, when I retire at age 65, I will go on Medicare, but I will get Medicare Supplemental Insurance from the fire district as a retirement benefit. I will pay 25% of the cost of this insurance and the fire district will pay 75% of the cost. Medicare Supplemental Insurance such as Medicare HMO Blue cost \$410 per month (\$307.50 paid by the fire district and \$102.50 paid by the retiree). The WBFD is part of the Cape Cod Municipal Health Care Group that provides group health insurance policies to 53 towns and districts on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard.

There is no regional or state system for providing OPEB benefits to municipal retirees in the same way there is a Barnstable County Pension system. The fire district is solely responsible for this cost. When the district started hiring full time staff it should have started putting money aside to pay these retirement



benefits. Like all the other 39 cities, 312 towns, and 148 districts in Massachusetts, we didn't. Only now are communities starting to understand the long-term cost of retirees and put money aside.

The WBFD is well ahead of most cities, towns, and districts. We have put aside 28% of the funds we need to pay this benefit in the future. Every year we are putting money into a trust fund so the trust fund can pay these expenses and we don't pay them out of annual tax revenue. Being

a leader in dealing with OPEB is one of the district's financial successes.

Annual Audits

The WBFD conducts a complete audit of its financial systems and funds each year. The audits are conducted by an outside/independent audit company. The annual audit costs about \$15,000. I'm happy to report that our FY 2021 audit was completed and there were no problems. And it is routine for us to have good audits.

As part of the audit process, the auditors make management recommendations to the fire district to correct deficiencies or improve systems. The only recommendation we received was to conduct a security audit of our information technology systems. We will be looking to conduct such an audit in 2022.

Looking for Old Photos of Old Fire Chiefs

Do you have a photo of **WBFD Fire Chiefs Harry Atwood, Roger Carlson, Paul Atwood and Seppo Soininen**? These chiefs served the WBFD from 1949 to 1974 and we don't have photos of them. If you do, would you please share them and allow us to make a copy.

The WBFD's photo history from prior to the mid-1970s is poor. We'd like to find photos of the department and its members from the 1950s and 1960s for our website and Facebook page. We want to be able to tell new members and our community the history and story of the department.

If you have any photos, please stop by the fire station and we can scan them or email us a digital copy. We will greatly appreciate any photos you have.

16 Years & Counting Down

As the clock ticks down to my mandatory retirement at age 65 in April 2024, I feel like I'm running on a hamster wheel to get everything in proper order when I depart. As the days to retirement get shorter it feels like the list of things to do gets longer. The pressure (much of it self-inflicted) builds to get more done faster. I'm already encountering projects and programs that can't be finished or even started before I'll be retired. It's tough to give up on them.

Being West Barnstable Fire Chief has become a core element of my personal identity these past 16 years. While I look forward to passing the reins of the department to Deputy Chief David Paananen, it

will be hard to let go and walk away. One day I'll be your fire chief and the next day I won't. I'm not sure who I will be then, and I worry that I won't find something to do that is as engaging and meaningful as what I do as chief.

When I became fire chief in 2005, I had a list of things to accomplish (I'll likely share this list and what I've accomplished and not accomplished in next year's report). Among those items on the list was that when I left the department there would be a peaceful and organized transfer of command. Towards that end, in 2022, I am going to continue my focus on mentoring Deputy Chief Paananen. I'm starting to mentor and teach our "junior officers" about many things I do. I don't want to leave any surprises behind.

When I took over as chief, I had no mentoring. I had no access to information about what the chief did and how he did it. I had to figure it all out from scratch. I will make sure that when I pass the department along, that there are no secrets about what I do and how I do it. Of course, future leaders will do a lot of things differently than me. That's a good thing and it's a normal thing. So much of how I lead the department is wrapped up in my lifetime of personal experiences.

And, as always, I will continue to do my best to ensure that the WBFD provides you with emergency medical services, fire suppression, and fire prevention that is nothing short of excellent. We have a great fire department with excellent capabilities. There is no other fire department anywhere that I would rather lead.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief Joe Maruca



West Barnstable Fire District
Calls by Type

Type of Call	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Animal Rescue	1	-	1	3	3	-
Assist Police / Other Government Agencies	14	104	9	15	8	10
Automatic Fire Alarm	61	57	53	71	69	61
Boat Fire	-	-	1	-	-	-
Burning Without a Permit	8	11	7	6	8	3
Carbon Monoxide	1	2	7	7	6	2
Cellar/Water Pumping	2	-	4	5	7	1
Dumpster Fire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elevator Rescue	1	1	-	2	3	-
EMS	348	253	308	309	302	319
Explosion/Rupture/Overhead	2	1	7	2	4	2
Hazmat	11	10	8	11	11	9
High-angle Rescue	-	-	-	-	-	1
Missing Person	-	1	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Crashes versus Pedestrian	-	-	2	-	2	2
Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury	24	27	24	29	32	24
Motor Vehicle Crashes without Injury	15	16	18	27	22	20
Motor Vehicle Fire	6	2	2	4	7	3
Mutual Aid - EMS	35	18	18	25	23	30
Mutual Aid - Fire	18	11	18	10	4	17
Mutual Aid - MVC	5	4	8	5	15	10
Mutual Aid - Other	10	10	13	11	11	25
Mutual Aid - Coverage	7	3	16	10	10	18
Oil Burner Malfunction	1	-	-	1	-	-
Other	1	2	2	1	-	1
Outside Equipment Fire	-	2	1	-	-	-
Prescribed Fire (Local and Regional)	-	4	2	-	2	3
Public Assist	14	21	29	38	26	21
Ring or Jewelry Removal	-	-	-	1	1	3
Smoke in the Building	-	2	5	3	-	3
Standby/Coverage	-	-	1	-	-	1
Structure Fire	-	3	2	3	4	-
Structure Fire - Chimney Fire	1	-	-	-	2	1
Structure Fire - Cooking Fire	1	5	1	2	1	2
Structure Fire - Electrical Fire	5	5	5	5	2	2
Structure Fire - Trash Fire	-	-	-	-	1	1
Unfounded/Mistakes/False	34	23	18	22	20	21
Utility Pole Fire/Wires Down	9	15	5	16	10	4
Water Rescue	2	-	1	-	2	-
Weather Emergencies	19	7	6	9	2	-
Wildland Fires	8	9	7	8	8	9
Total	664	629	609	661	628	629

Comments

While 2021 was the second busiest year for the WBFD in terms of total emergency calls, it was an unusually quiet year for fires. There were no serious fires in West Barnstable in 2021. Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls for the ambulance increased significantly over prior years. All other types of emergency calls occurred at about the number we would expect.

West Barnstable Fire District Fire Loss Data

2021 Fire Loss Data by Property Type

Incident Type	Count	Total Value	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Saved
Structure Fire	1	\$ 333,600	\$ 1,000	\$ 332,600	99.70%
Vehicle Fire	2	\$ 285,500	\$ 275,500	\$ 10,000	3.50%
Total	3	\$ 619,100	\$ 276,500	\$ 342,600	55.34%

Fire Loss Data by Year

Year	Count	Total Value	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Saved
2021	-	\$ 619,100	\$ 276,500	\$ 342,600	55.34%
2020	-	\$ 1,125,700	\$ 68,000	\$ 1,057,700	93.96%
2019	-	\$ 66,600	\$ 16,700	\$ 49,900	74.92%
2018	-	\$ 3,080,900	\$ 32,000	\$ 3,048,900	98.96%
2017	-	\$ 1,896,100	\$ 721,000	\$ 1,175,100	61.97%
2016	-	\$ 5,431,001	\$ 13,901	\$ 5,417,100	99.74%

Comments

The 2021 fire losses are not as they appear. Most of the loss, about \$250,000, is attributed to a single large truck. This truck crashed on RT 6 and there was an engine fire after the truck crashed. The way fire loss data is compiled, the system attributes the loss to the fire, but the truck was really destroyed by the crash and the fire came after. The one structure fire was chimney fire with minor smoke damage to the house. A second car fire resulted in the total loss of a BMW.



West Barnstable Fire District Mutual Aid Summary

Mutual Aid Given											
	2021										
	EMS	Fire	MVC	Other	Coverage	Total	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Sandwich	17	6	2	5	1	31	21	25	21	14	30
Barnstable	14	5	3	4	-	26	14	28	28	36	52
COMM	3	4	-	1	2	10	10	9	6	10	8
Hyannis	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	3	2	2	3
Dennis	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-
Cotuit	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	2
Mashpee	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	2
Falmouth	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Orleans	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
JBCC	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	3
Yarmouth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Wellfleet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Bourne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Truro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Harwich	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Eastham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total Mutual Aid Given	35	18	5	10	7	75	46	75	61	65	103
Total WBFD Incidents	664						629	609	661	628	629
Percent Mutual Aid Given	11.3%						7.3%	12.3%	9.2%	10.4%	16.4%

Mutual Aid Received						
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Total Mutual Aid Received	39	20	20	42	47	31
Total WBFD Incidents	664	629	609	661	628	629
Percent Mutual Aid Received	5.9%	3.2%	3.3%	6.4%	7.5%	4.9%

Comments

In 2021 Mutual Aid received and given was within the typical range.



West Barnstable Fire District Busiest Locations

Busiest Locations							
Year	Route 6	CCCC	Burger King Complex Partially	Kimber Woods	Lombard Farms	YMCA	Knight's Inn / Craigville Motel
	Tax Exempt	Tax Exempt	Tax-Exempt	Tax Exempt	Tax Exempt	Tax Exempt	
2021	42	40	26	12	8	5	9
2020	42	112	27	10	12	5	5
2019	30	38	29	16	8	9	5
2018	46	43	26	18	5	12	5
2017	39	47	25	20	6	9	3
2016	42	31	25	21	4	17	3
2015	55	32	30	18	15	11	4
2014	35	43	15	27	9	8	23
2013	40	49	17	19	5	8	37
2012	28	48	30	24	10	8	29
2011	37	52	26	19	15	20	21
2010	36	39	11	21	17	14	21

Trailing Five Year Averages							
2017-2021	40	56	27	15	8	8	5

Comments

In 2021, there was no meaningful change in the WBFD's busiest locations for emergency calls, except that calls at the Cape Cod Community College (CCCC) dropped to normal pre-COVID numbers.



West Barnstable Fire District Emergency Response Times

Response time is measured from the time the dispatcher answered the 911 call to the time the 1st fire unit arrived on location. Response times are shown in minutes and seconds.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fire						
Number of Incidents	16	19	12	14	13	13
90th Percentile Time	08:05	09:15	08:00	07:38	07:50	10:03
50th Percentile Time	06:36	06:39	06:00	04:48	04:26	06:51
EMS						
Number of Incidents	317	243	294	276	271	295
90th Percentile Time	08:14	08:07	07:36	07:00	07:24	07:22
50th Percentile Time	05:49	05:37	05:00	05:00	04:58	05:03
MVC						
Number of Incidents	34	38	37	46	45	41
90th Percentile Time	08:15	07:27	07:00	08:16	06:55	07:13
50th Percentile Time	05:57	05:04	05:00	03:46	04:17	04:03
Other						
Number of Incidents	183	163	171	222	187	146
90th Percentile Time	09:34	09:43	09:00	10:28	09:29	08:25
50th Percentile Time	06:26	05:44	05:38	05:38	05:39	05:14
All Incident Types						
Number of Incidents	550	463	514	558	516	495
90th Percentile Time	08:53	08:46	08:00	08:14	08:02	07:54
50th Percentile Time	06:00	05:39	05:06	05:09	05:06	05:03

Comments

For the second year and in some categories for a third year in a row the WBFD's response times have increased. The increases are slight, however, this is of concern. For instance, fire response times have increased by more than a minute over three years. This data does not include mutual aid sent to other communities.

*90% Response Time means that the West Barnstable Fire Department arrived at an emergency scene within or sooner than the time shown 90% of the time.

**Average Response Time indicates that half of the time the WBFD will arrive sooner than the time shown, and half of the time it will arrive later than the time shown. The 90% Response Time is a more accurate and reliable expectation for the WBFD to respond to any particular incident.

**West Barnstable Fire District
Inspection Data and Building Types**

Inspection Data						
Inspection Type	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors (GL Ch. 26F)	49	56	46	53	47	43
New Fire Alarm Systems	5	7	11	9	7	11
Ammo Storage	3	3	3	3	3	3
Propane Tank Installations	3	-	6	-	-	1
Oil Tank Removals (GL Ch. 21E)	1	7	-	5	5	1
Oil Tank Installations	3	1	9	1	6	2
Oil Burner Installations	3	4	-	3	2	6
Fire Suppression Systems Installations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel Tank Truck	-	2	-	5	1	2
Fire Suppression Systems Installations	1	-	-	-	-	-
Propane Tank Installations - Above Ground	-	2	-	7	5	-
Welding Permits	-	1	3	-	-	2
Propane Tank Installations - Underground	-	1	-	2	2	1
Vent Free Gas Stove	-	-	-	-	1	-
Total	68	84	78	88	79	72

The number and type of fire inspections conducted by the WBFD remains fairly stable and predictable. Most are for smoke detector and carbon monoxide detectors at the sale of home. Deputy Chief David Paananen is our primary inspector. Lieutenant Luke Walsh assists him. In addition to these legally required inspections, the WBFD does pre-incident planning inspections of all businesses, commercial properties and public assemblies (churches, YMCA, pre-schools, etc.) on an annual basis.

Building Types						
Type	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Single Family Homes	1,161	1,161	1,160	1,154	1,152	1,149
Multiple Houses per Lot	22	22	20	20	20	21
Apartments	3	4	4	5	6	6
Commercial	35	35	35	35	34	35
Industrial	8	8	8	8	8	8
Mixed Use	27	29	29	17	18	16
Total	1,256	1,259	1,256	1,239	1,238	1,235

As expected, the the number and type of buildings in West Barnstable doesn't change significantly from year to year. The variation we see is a mostly a result of building uses changing or the occasional new home being built. For instance, a building that houses a small business and residence together might change to strictly housing and we lose a building in the Mixed Use Category, or someone converts a two-family house to a one-family house. The fact that the number and mix of buildings hasn't changed significantly indicates a stable community with low economic growth. The mix of properties, mostly single-family residential homes, indicates a community with low to moderate fire risk.



West Barnstable Fire District
Motor Vehicle Crash w/ Extrication Performance

Incident	Date	Dispatch Time	Arrival Time	Patient Extrication Time	At Hospital Time	Dispatch to Extrication Time (min)	Arrival to Extrication Time (min)	Dispatch to Hospital Time (min)	Notes
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2021

2021-106	3/17/21	3:15 PM	3:20 PM	3:45 PM	3:55 PM	30	25	40	Medflight, Cape Cod Airport
2021-305	7/7/21	12:36 AM	12:40 AM	12:48 AM	1:11 AM	13	8	35	
Average						22	17	38	

2020

2020-298	6/9/20	8:26 PM	8:31 PM	8:45 PM	N/A	19	14	N/A	Extrication time estimated. Patient refused transport.
2020-351	6/30/20	12:08 PM	12:14 PM	12:27 PM	1:32 PM	19	13	83	Patient transported to South Shore Hospital.
2020-395	7/22/20	9:13 AM	9:19 AM	9:58 AM	10:15 AM	45	39	62	
Average						28	22	73	

2019

2019-567	11/29/19	9:35 AM	9:38 AM	9:48 AM	10:14 AM	13	10	39	
2019-592	12/18/19	3:29 PM	3:39 PM	3:52 PM	4:07 PM	23	13	39	
Average						18	12	39	

2018

2018-009	1/4/18	1:54 PM	1:55 PM	1:59 PM		5	4	-	Person extricated from car in flooded road. Not transported to hospital.
2018-232	4/17/18	6:42 PM	6:45 PM	6:55 PM	7:27 PM	13	10	45	
2018-391	7/17/18	1:39 PM	1:45 PM	2:16 PM		37	31	-	Patient transported to South Shore Hospital. Arrival time
2018-569	10/29/18	11:00 AM	11:05 AM			-	-	-	Unavailable of patient extrication time. Patient was transferred to Medflight at 11:43.
Average						18	15	45	

2017

2017-259	6/16/17	5:46 PM	5:53 PM	6:02 PM	6:22 PM	15	9	35	
2017-388	8/18/17	9:08 PM	9:29 PM	9:38 PM	9:50 PM	30	9	42	Extricated by SFD
2017-433	9/2/17	12:54 PM	1:00 PM	1:16 PM	1:30 PM	22	16	36	
2017-578	11/29/17	3:55 PM	4:00 PM	4:16 PM	4:36 PM	21	16	40	
Average						22	13	38	

2016

2016-043	2/5/16	11:48 AM	11:57 AM	12:02 PM	12:22 PM	14	5	34	
2016-454	9/11/16	12:36 PM	12:40 PM	12:55 PM	1:15 PM	19	15	39	
Average						17	10	37	

Comments

The goal of the WBFD is to get trauma patients to the hospital within 60 minutes of their injury. Patients trapped in a crashed car present a challenge to getting them to the hospital in time. In 2021, the WBFD extricated two patients from crashed vehicles. In one case, the patient was flown by helicopter to a Boston Hospital (Cape Cod Hospital is not a trauma center.) The number of serious motor vehicle crashes in WB has been decreasing since about 2005 when there were 89 crashes. In 2021, there were only 39 crashes in WB.

**West Barnstable Fire District
Ambulance Billing Activity**

2021	Number of Patients	Billing Activity			Annual % Change in Collected	Collection Rates		Average per Patient			Annual % Change in Collected per Patient
		Billed	Allowed	Collected		Billed	Allowed	Billed	Allowed	Collected	
Private Insurance	68	273,852	269,645	203,031		74.1%	75.3%	4,027	3,965	2,986	
Government Insurance	188	748,000	92,712	78,376		10.5%	84.5%	3,979	493	417	
Self-Pay	24	95,997	87,524	3,478		3.6%	4.0%	4,000	3,647	145	
Total	280	1,117,849	449,880	284,885	29.9%	25.5%	63.3%	3,992	1,607	1,017	0.2%

Historical	Number of Patients	Billing Activity			Annual % Change in Collected	Collection Rates		Average per Patient			Annual % Change in Collected per Patient
		Billed	Allowed	Collected		Billed	Allowed	Billed	Allowed	Collected	
2021	280	1,117,849	449,880	284,885	29.9%	25.5%	63.3%	3,992	1,607	1,017	0.2%
2020	216	811,617	366,134	219,287	-12.6%	27.0%	59.9%	3,757	1,695	1,015	6.4%
2019	263	828,952	370,308	250,975	-3.3%	30.3%	67.8%	3,152	1,408	954	-0.7%
2018	270	812,951	333,480	259,427	30.1%	31.9%	77.8%	3,011	1,235	961	28.1%
2017	266	788,389	285,107	199,480	-8.8%	25.3%	70.0%	2,964	1,072	750	-7.5%
2016	270	776,697	319,557	218,804	-9.3%	28.2%	68.5%	2,877	1,184	810	14.9%
2015	342	937,766	369,505	241,284	37.8%	25.7%	65.3%	2,742	1,080	706	10.8%
2014	275	419,554	227,490	175,058	0.5%	41.7%	77.0%	1,526	827	637	14.4%
2013	313	372,638	185,225	174,232	-1.0%	46.8%	94.1%	1,191	592	557	-9.5%
2012	286	397,550	226,694	175,963	-11.0%	44.3%	77.6%	1,390	793	615	6.4%
2011	342	402,634	244,691	197,757	45.9%	49.1%	80.8%	1,177	715	578	12.6%
2010	264	282,457	162,793	135,514	1.8%	48.0%	83.2%	1,070	617	513	4.5%
2009	271	251,920	158,594	133,084	10.6%	52.8%	83.9%	930	585	491	-0.8%
2008	243	212,660	137,685	120,327	-2.4%	56.6%	87.4%	875	567	495	15.6%
2007	288	217,407	150,328	123,330		56.7%	82.0%	755	522	428	

Number of Patients

	Private Insurance			Government Insurance			Self-Pay			Total		
	ALS	BLS	Total	ALS	BLS	Total	ALS	BLS	Total	ALS	BLS	Total
2021	40	28	68	171	17	188	15	9	24	226	54	280
2020	48	19	67	95	32	127	15	7	22	158	58	216
2019	58	23	81	129	31	160	16	6	22	203	60	263
2018	54	19	73	136	35	171	21	5	26	211	59	270
2017	43	19	62	141	42	183	17	4	21	201	65	266
2016	50	20	70	131	43	174	15	11	26	196	74	270
2015	71	33	104	147	64	211	14	13	27	232	110	342
2014			85			154			36			275
2013			187			94			32			313
2012			143			123			20			286
2011			129			178			35			342
2010			123			115			26			264
2009			112			133			26			271
2008			114			110			19			243
2007			144			115			29			288

Comments

In 2021, ambulance revenue increased by 29%, but the amount collected per patient did not increase. The increase in revenue is a result of a significant increase in patients. Ambulance revenue represents about 15% of the WBFD operations budget (and real estate taxes make up the rest). The WBFD is allowed by state law to charge for ambulance transports to the hospital. We are not allowed to charge for ambulance service if we don't take a patient to the hospital. Most WBFD patients are over 65 and on Medicare. Medicare will only pay us about \$417 to take a patient to the hospital, where Blue Cross pays us about \$2900. It costs about \$4000 to transport someone to the hospital --- factoring in the cost of the ambulance, insurance, maintenance, staff salaries, medical supplies, training, and equipment.

**West Barnstable Fire District
Calendar Year 2021 Compensation**

Career Firefighters/ Paramedics	Regular Earnings	Overtime Earnings	Total Earnings	Overtime Hours	Average Weekly Overtime Hours	Average Total Hours per Week
Cottrell, Curtis	80,112	21,412	101,524	407	7.8	49.8
Jewett, Troy	88,303	55,298	143,601	944	18.1	60.1
Murray, William	87,803	75,469	163,272	1,288	24.8	66.8
Sylvia, Kimberly	80,477	52,390	132,868	970	18.6	60.6
Walsh, Luke	63,266	19,913	83,179	435	16.7	56.7
Total	399,961	224,482	624,443	4,042		

Call/Volunteer Firefighters	Earnings
Andrewski, Christian	2,981
Antoine, Matthew	5,560
Brunelle, Stephen	1,376
Cikins, Matthew	9,192
Corey, Abigale	4,132
Crosby, Robert	3,727
Crowl, Devon	3,961
Crowley, Edward	1,900
Dauley, Christina	546
Diaz, Ian	8,995
DiPilato, Ryan	3,891
Drew, Craig	2,061
Fancy, Luke	2,894
Gallagher, Connor	2,976
Garafoli, John	6,734
Gruenglas, Jeffrey	4,098
Heckler, Andrew	1,462
Henson, Roger	1,900
Herbert, Molly	6,308
Herrin, Abijah	924
Imparato, Stephen	2,870
Kent, Michael	201
King, Daniel	1,378
Lesiak, Walter	2,850
Longo, Edward	1,307
Looney, Michael	4,255
O'Connor, Christopher	5,505
Queenan, Joseph	1,900
Robbins, Jonathan	12,831
Stewart, Aaron	3,295
Stoots, Jason	2,813
Sylvester, Collin	4,658
Wasierski, Thomas	195
Wedge, Joshua	1,339
Total Call/Volunteer	121,015

Other	Earnings
Part-Time Firefighters/EMTs	
Fyre, Steven	19,760
Melanson, Stephanie	15,823
Moloney, Austin	30,410
Osborn, Austin	27,026
Young, Kevin	22,971
Part-Time Maintenance	
Ill, Eric	3,510
Administration	
Maruca, Joseph (Chief)	139,219
Paananen, David (Deputy Chief)	130,613
Scozzarella, Heather (Admin Asst)	20,748
Jacob, Nanette (Records Access Officer)	4,539
Sonnabend, Jennifer (Records Access Officer)	1,000
District Treasurer	
Pirrone, Raymond	23,409
District Accountant	
Bernard Meyler	4,352
Rao, Susan	25,144
Prudential Committee	
Grace, Elaine (Clerk)	6,000
Mitchell, Kate	100
Northcross, Walter	500
Schulman, Stuart	375
Smith, Edward	500
Total Other	475,997

Summary	Earnings
Career Firefighters/Paramedics	624,443
Call/Volunteer Firefighters	121,015
Part-Time FF/EMTs	115,989
Part-time Maintenance	3,510
Administration, Staff, Elected/Appointed	356,498
Total	1,221,455



West Barnstable Fire District
Overtime Hours by Type

Fiscal Year 2021 Hours													
Overtime Type	July 2020	Aug 20	Sep 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Total
Emergency Calls	101	125	60	60	67	120	72	114	186	111	133	88	1,237
Shift Cov-Monday													-
Shift Cov-Vac	24						24		78			19	145
Shift Cov-Sick-Doc		10			48					24			82
Shift Cov-Injury													-
Shift Cov	144	95	66	36	24	21	86	18	87	44	68	190	879
Shift Cov-Meetings													-
Shift Cov-Jury Duty													-
Shift Cov-Training													-
Shift Cov-Fire Prev.													-
Shift Cov-Detail													-
Shift Cov-Fire Acad.													-
Shift Cov-Bereave													-
Shift Cov-Retirement													-
Shift Cov-Holiday													-
Public Education													-
Shift Cov-Cis													-
Public Education													-
Training	94	37	21	101	40	15	59	46	129	57	93	68	760
Fire Prevention													-
Storm Coverage													-
Special Detail	3	4	9		34				44	11	5	12	122
COVID Detail	73												73
Staff Mtg.	2	2				3		2		3	10	4	26
Court Appearance													-
Hiring Committee													-
Total	441	273	156	197	213	159	241	180	524	250	309	381	3,324

Historical Hours

Fiscal Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
FY21	441	273	156	197	213	159	241	180	524	250	309	381	3,324
FY20	310	328	359	380	300	121	256	266	468	299	373	536	3,996
FY19	347	350	402	420	439	378	433	420	518	462	523	490	5,178
FY18	309	321	353	339	341	316	473	330	434	442	523	459	4,639
FY17	513	391	353	326	359	382	462	375	310	458	446	474	4,846
FY16	305	310	484	486	466	384	290	386	279	248	424	452	4,511
FY15	297	258	484	437	407	341	524	351	487	324	429	513	4,849
FY14	423	319	304	382	403	423	462	318	300	309	438	361	4,439
FY13	282	296	321	463	335	234	367	450	380	436	358	419	4,336
FY12	322	448	384	407	414	359	435	240	387	415	418	428	4,655

Comments

For the second year in a row overtime decreased. It is at it lowest level since FY 2012. The reason for this isn't clear. It is in part a result of having none of our staff out with injuries, or having to fill any vacancies. Our decrease in training hours could be part of it. I don't expect this trend to continue in FY 2022.

West Barnstable Fire District

Training Hours

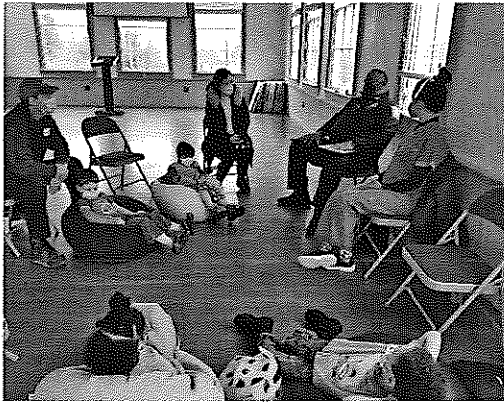
2021

Actual Hours														
Name	Rank	Full Year	Fire (NFPA 1001)	Hazmat	Driver / Operator Training	Officer Training	Recruit Training	EMS	Vehicle Extrication	Wildland / Brush	Other	Total	Physical Fitness	Total Hours with PT
Command Staff														
Maruca, Joseph	Chief	Yes	20	2	-	15	8	4	-	-	6	55	-	55
Paananen, David	Deputy	Yes	14	4	16	3	2	4	2	-	6	51	-	51
Jewett, Troy	Capt.	Yes	36	5	108	3	75	6	2	-	3	238	1	239
Murray, William	Capt.	Yes	30	4	110	3	69	6	1	-	6	229	-	229
Cottrell, Curtis	Lieut.	Yes	423	-	35	3	34	9	4	-	3	510	-	510
Sylvia, Kimberly	Lieut.	Yes	27	2	25	20	51	12	2	-	6	146	-	146
Diaz, Ian	Lieut.	Yes	26	2	16	3	39	2	2	-	3	93	43	136
Frye, Steve	Lieut.	Yes	29	4	87	3	44	2	3	-	3	174	-	174
Garofoli, John	Lieut.	Yes	23	2	34	3	41	3	2	1	6	114	-	114
Walsh, Luke	Lieut.	Yes	25	4	62	3	40	-	2	-	7	143	-	143
Firefighters/EMTs														
Brunelle, Stephen		Yes	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cikins, Matt		Yes	32	2	45	-	13	4	2	7	-	105	-	105
Clifford, Sean		Yes	33	4	34	3	76	5	-	7	6	167	4	171
Corey, Abigale		Yes	28	4	35	3	38	4	2	-	6	120	-	120
Cox, Ernie		Yes	24	2	23	3	83	2	2	-	6	143	-	143
Crosby, Robert		Yes	31	2	33	3	6	4	2	1	3	84	-	84
Dauley, Christina		Yes	17	-	13	3	-	4	2	1	6	45	-	45
Drew, Craig		Yes	3	-	15	-	8	-	-	-	-	26	-	26
Fancy, Luke		Yes	28	4	25	3	34	3	4	8	6	114	-	114
Franklin, Quantez		Yes	29	4	19	3	81	7	2	2	6	153	-	153
Friel, Ryan		Yes	25	4	7	3	88	8	3	-	3	141	-	141
Gallagher, Connor		Yes	19	2	9	3	4	2	2	-	6	46	-	46
Gruenglas, Jeffrey		Yes	105	4	10	3	46	6	2	-	6	182	-	182
Heckler, Andrew		Yes	17	-	-	-	-	8	2	-	3	30	-	30
Hein, Kyle		Yes	26	4	34	3	86	6	3	7	6	175	-	175
Herbert, Molly		Yes	4	2	13	-	21	1	-	-	-	40	4	44
Higginbotham, Chloe		Yes	30	4	18	3	81	6	2	9	3	156	-	156
King, Daniel		Yes	23	2	8	-	30	5	2	-	3	74	-	74
Lannon, Jennifer		Yes	46	4	21	3	78	9	2	9	6	177	-	177
Llorentty, Allyssa		Yes	26	4	15	-	74	8	2	8	6	142	-	142
Longo, Ed		Yes	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5
Melanson, Stephanie		Yes	4	-	9	-	4	1	-	-	-	18	1	19
Moloney, Austin		Yes	62	4	47	3	56	8	2	2	6	190	-	190
O'Connor, Chris		Yes	15	-	20	-	24	5	2	1	-	67	-	67
Osborn, Austin		Yes	132	4	69	3	60	14	2	-	-	285	20	304
Rees, Kyle		Yes	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	-	13
Riker, Jacob		Yes	39	4	83	3	88	8	3	7	6	241	-	241
Robbins, Jonathan		Yes	37	2	40	3	16	4	2	-	6	111	65	176
Smith, Alex		Yes	31	4	6	3	80	4	2	2	3	134	-	134
Stergis, James		Yes	14	4	6	3	81	7	2	7	3	127	-	127
Stewart, Aaron		Yes	12	-	8	3	-	-	2	7	-	32	-	32
Stoos, Jason		Yes	9	-	13	-	4	-	-	-	3	29	-	29
Sylvester, Collin		Yes	27	4	56	3	44	5	2	-	3	144	-	144
Wedge, Joshua		Yes	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Young, Kevin		Yes	7	-	15	1	-	2	-	-	1	26	-	26
Andrewski, Christian		No	-	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	-	11	-	11
Antoine, Matthew		No	9	-	3	-	8	2	-	-	3	24	-	24
Cameron, Mario		No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crowl, Devon		No	-	-	3	-	27	-	-	-	-	30	-	30
Dipilato, Ryan		No	10	2	60	3	16	2	-	-	-	92	-	92
Dorsey, Kate		No	20	2	14	3	47	7	-	-	-	92	-	92
Herrin, Abijah		No	15	-	15	3	36	7	2	-	3	80	-	80
Imparato, Stephen		No	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Kent, Michael		No	13	2	9	-	22	3	2	-	-	51	-	51
Kilmurray, Steve		No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Looney, Michael		No	8	-	6	-	4	2	2	-	-	22	-	22
Murray, Seamus		No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
O'Donnell, Anthony		No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wasierski, Thomas		No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson, Braden		No	20	2	4	3	46	3	-	-	3	81	-	81
Total Actual Training Hours			1,688	115	1,368	126	1,928	221	86	84	170	5,784	137	5,922
Average Training Hours for Full Year			35	2	28	3	38	4	2	2	4	118	3	121



2021 Report of Whelden Memorial Library

On behalf of the Officers, Trustees, and Staff of Whelden Memorial Library I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the West Barnstable Fire District Prudential Committee, Fire Chief Joe Maruca, and the citizens of the West Barnstable Fire District for their continued support of the library.



This year has brought many changes to our little library. We reopened our doors full-time in May 2021 with very few bumps in the road. In November 2021, we welcomed a new director: Andrea Figaratto, a librarian familiar with the Cape library network through her many years working in libraries on the Vineyard. She brings a depth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the position.

Thanks to you and your support, the library was able to update and maintain the building and property, keep our staffing levels up to service our growing community, and expand our remote services and digital presence during these unprecedented times. We hope you all have enjoyed the variety of e-resources and remote services we have been able to offer.

In the coming year, we would like to reinvest in the in-print material the library offers, collaborate with our community partners to offer thoughtful intergenerational programming, both in-person and online, increase our staffing levels to meet the needs of our patrons, and maintain our expanded digital collection.

With your support, we continue to strive to offer the best services, programs, and materials. Please keep up-to-date with all events and activities by visiting our website www.wheldenlibrary.org, following us on social media, or signing up for our newsletter!



At this year's Annual District Meeting, we are again asking citizens of the West Barnstable Fire District to support an appropriation of \$15,000 for Fiscal Year 2023, the same amount as requested last year.

With sincere gratitude, we thank all of you for your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Figaratto, Director, Whelden Memorial Library

2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES of the WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT APRIL 28, 2021

The Annual Meeting of the West Barnstable Fire District was held in the West Barnstable Fire Headquarters parking lot, 2160 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149), West Barnstable, Massachusetts on **April 28, 2021**. In accordance with provisions of the duly posted and published Warrant, the polls were open on April 28, 2021 for the election of District officials from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Serving as ballot counters were Susan Rao, Heather Scozzarella and Nanette Jacobson. With a total of 46 ballots cast, the results were as follows:

		<u>Votes</u>	<u>Blanks</u>	<u>Write-ins</u>
Prudential Committee/3 Years	Dhiraj Malkani	46	0	0
Water Commissioner/3 Years	Lisa Hendrickson	44	2	0

At 7:00 PM, the meeting was called to order by District Moderator, Kate Mitchell, who determined a quorum was present. The Clerk, Elaine L. Grace, read the Call of the Warrant, confirmed that the Warrant had been served by posting a copy thereof at the West Barnstable Post Office, the Whelden Memorial Library, and at West Barnstable Fire Headquarters, all in the West Barnstable Fire District, at least seven (7) days before the date of the meeting, and further reported that, in accordance with District By-Laws, the Warrant had been published in The Barnstable Patriot newspaper in the April 17, 2020 issue. A booklet, containing the Annual Reports of 2020 and the Fiscal Year 2022 Warrant was mailed to approximately 1663 residents of the District on April 17, 2021

Article 1. Upon motion made by Van Northcross and duly seconded by Edward Crowley, it was unanimously voted to accept the reports of the Officers, including the minutes of the previous annual meeting, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 2. Upon motion made by Van Northcross and duly seconded by Kristine Clark, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the **Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021**, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and Acts in amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of one (1) year or less in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 3. Upon motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Kristine Clark, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate from available funds in **FY2022** the sum of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)** for streetlights as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 4. Upon motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Robert Stolte, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate in **FY2022** from Certified Free Cash the sum of **Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00)** and raise and appropriate the sum of **Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$2,415.00)** for a total sum of **Thirty-two Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$32,415.00)** for debt services, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 5. Upon motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Steven Xiarhos, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Fifty-eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty-three Dollars (\$58,183.00)** for District Salaries in **FY2022** for the following officers: Moderator, District Treasurer, District Accountant, District Clerk, Prudential Committee, and Records Access Officer, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 6. Upon motion duly made by Edward Smith and seconded by Andris Silins, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Forty-nine Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-eight Dollars (\$49,228.00)** for the ordinary operating expenses of the District in **FY2022**, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 7. Upon motion duly made by Edward Smith and seconded by Andris Silins, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate in **FY2022**, the sum of **One Million Four Hundred Eighty-nine Thousand One Hundred Three Dollars (\$1,489,103.00)** for the operation of the West Barnstable Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 8. Upon motion duly made by Edward Smith and seconded by Andris Silins, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **Four Hundred Twenty-four Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$424,899.00)** and transfer and appropriate from the OPEB Trust Fund the sum of **Thirty-eight Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars (\$38,569.00)** and transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of **Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00)** for a total sum of **Five Hundred Three Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-eight Dollars (\$503,468.00)** Thousand to fund miscellaneous District obligations in **FY2022**, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 9. Upon motion duly made by Edward Smith and seconded by Andris Silins, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate to the Reserve Fund in **FY2022** the sum of **Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$35,000.00)**, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 10. Upon motion duly made by Edward Smith and seconded by Andris Silins, it was voted unanimously to transfer and appropriate from Certified Free Cash in **FY2022** the sum of **Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00)** for the **General Stabilization Fund**, the sum of **Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00)** for the **Ambulance Stabilization Fund**, and the sum of **Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00)** for the **Critical Health/Illness Fund**, for a total sum of **Fifty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$57,500.00)**, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 11. Upon motion duly made by Van Northcross, seconded by Andris Silins, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate in **FY2022**, the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)** to fund a financial audit of the West Barnstable Fire District for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021, said funds to be expended under the Prudential Committee, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 12. Upon a motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Andris Silins, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate in **FY2022**, the sum of **Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)** from Certified Free Cash for Whelden Memorial Library services, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 13. Upon a motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Steven Xiarhos, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate in **FY2022**, the sum of **One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)** from Certified Free Cash, borrow and appropriate the sum of **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00)**, transfer and appropriate from the Gift of Funds known as the Bailey Fund the sum of **Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00)**, transfer and appropriate from the General Stabilization Fund the sum of **Eighty-five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000.00)** and transfer and appropriate from the Overlay Surplus Allowance the sum of **Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00)** for a total sun of **Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000.00)** to replace Engine-Tanker #296, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

Article 14. Upon a motion duly made by Van Northcross and seconded by Andris Silins it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate in **FY2022**, the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00)** from Certified Free Cash for miscellaneous capital repairs at West Barnstable Fire Station Headquarters, as printed in the **Annual Reports of 2020**, distributed to the voters.

There being no further business before the meeting, the **2021 Annual West Barnstable Fire District Meeting** was adjourned sine die at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine L. Grace, District Clerk

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

December 31, 2021

Fire Chief Joe Maruca

Deputy Fire Chief Dave Paananen

Non-Group Firefighters
Dayshift
EMT Lt. Luke Walsh
EMT Kevin Young*
EMT Jeff Gruenglas

Department Administration
Admin Asst. Heather Scozzarella
Truck Maint. Chief Joe Queenan
Human Res. Chief Walter Lesiak
Co. Training Chief Roger Henson

GROUP 1
Medic Lt. Curtis Cottrell
FR Lt. John Garofoli
EMT Jonathan Robbins*
EMT Robert Crosby
EMT Christina Dauley
EMT Luke Fancy
EMT Chris O'Connor
EMT Tom Wasierski
EMT Ernie Cox
EMT Allyssa Liorentty

GROUP 2
Medic Lt. Kimberly Sylvia
EMT Stephanie Melanson*
FR Matt Cikins*
EMT Craig Drew
EMT Molly Herbert
EMT Daniel King
Medic Austin Osborn*
EMT Sean Clifford
FR James Stergis

GROUP 3
Medic Capt. William Murray
EMT Lt. Steven Frye
EMT Jason Stoots*
EMT Stephen Brunelle
FR Aaron Stewart
FR Collin Sylvester
FR Joshua Wedge
EMT Ryan Friel
EMT Kyle Hein
EMT Jacob Riker

GROUP 4
Medic Capt. Troy Jewett
EMT Lt. Ian Diaz
EMT Edward Longo*
EMT Austin Moloney*
FR Abigale Corey
FR Connor Gallagher
EMT Quantez Franklin
EMT Chloe Higginbotham
EMT Jennifer Lannon
EMT Alexander Smith

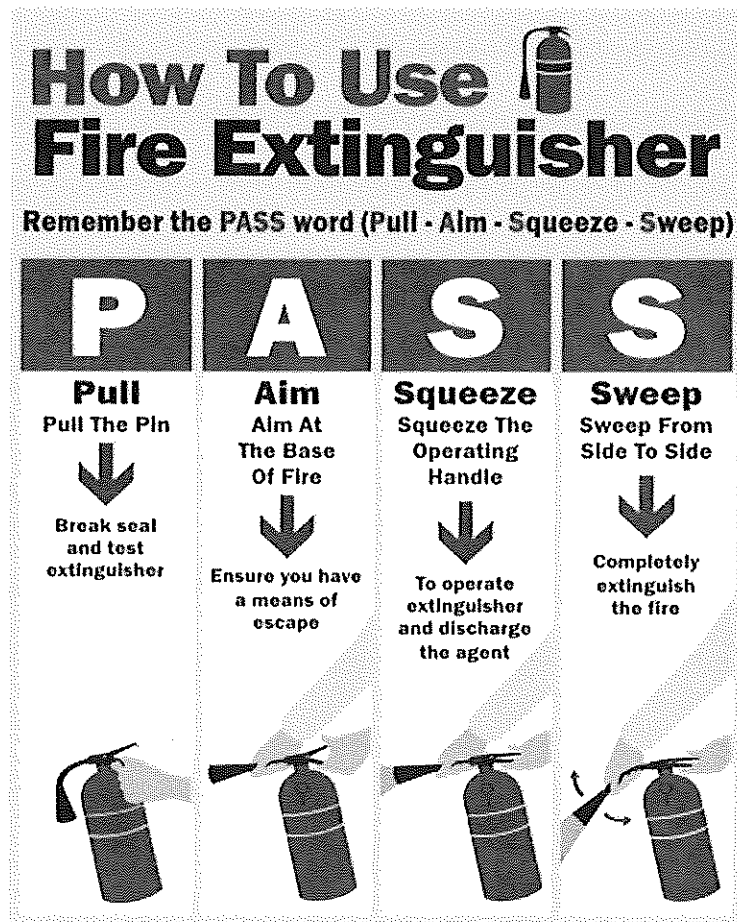
Chief's Aide
EMT Andy Heckler

Medic = Paramedic
EMT = Emergency Medical Technician
FR = First Responder
Capt. = Captain
Lt. = Lieutenant

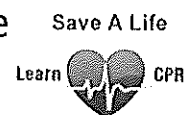
*Engineer = Driver/Operator of all Department Trucks
All officers are also engineers.

Do You Know How to Use a Fire Extinguisher?

If You'd Like to Learn, Contact the WBFD & We'll Teach You.



Email the WBFD at wbfdcommunity@gmail.com or call the fire station at 508-362-3241 to set up your fire extinguisher training, or CPR/First Aid training.



– NOTES –

BLANK

West Barnstable Fire & EMS Association
2160 Meetinghouse Way
P.O. Box 955
West Barnstable, MA 02668



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02668

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Annual Meeting Voting & Meeting
APRIL 27, 2022
Voting from 5-7 PM & Meeting begins 7 PM
West Barnstable Community Building
2377 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable, MA