

Town Report 2019

The Mission Statement of the Plymouth Fire Department remains the same as in past years, which is to protect the general public's life and property in the most efficient manner by reducing the effects of fire emergencies, medical emergencies, hazardous material incidents, special rescue emergencies and natural disasters. The Department will continue to train and provide a proactive, highly trained professional emergency responder for the residents and guest of the Town of Plymouth.

2019 was another busy year for the department with fire emergency incidents totaling 8,879 and total apparatus responses of 9,970.

Significant Incidents and Major Events during 2019

On August 22, 2019 at 12:30 am, Battalion 3, E1, TL1, E3, and E2 to a reported building fire on Rocky Hill Road. Upon arrival Engine 1's crew found heavy fire showing from 2 sides of a two-story single family residence. All occupants were out of the building by the time units arrived on scene. One occupant was transported to the hospital by paramedics for smoke inhalation. A neighbor at 227 Rocky Hill Road was the original 911 caller. Eleven-year-old Chayce Mellow smelled smoke and woke up his fifteen-year-old brother Ayden Mellow. Their mother was alerted to call 911 while Ayden ran to the burning home and alerted the occupants by pounding on the door. Both Chayce and Ayden were credited with saving the Buckbee family of four. Both were given a Citizen Responder Award in recognition of their heroic actions during the September 10, 2019 Selectboard meeting.

Personnel

Salute to Retirees

Deputy Fire Chief Stanley Eldridge

Appointed as a Firefighter 03-12-1992
Promoted to Fire Lieutenant 10-01-1997
Promoted to Fire Captain 01-04-2006
Promoted to Battalion Chief 11-19-2006
Promoted to Deputy Fire Chief 10-11-2010
Retired March 12, 2019 with over 27 years of Service

Firefighter John Winterson

Appointed as a Firefighter 10-07-1990
Retired January 17, 2019 with over 32 years of Service

Lieutenant Jeffrey Bishop

Appointed as a Firefighter 05-19-1987
Promoted to Fire Lieutenant 02-18-2003
Retired May 20, 2019 with 32 years of Service

Firefighter Steven Williamson

Appointed as a Firefighter 07-13-1987
Retired July 13, 2019 with 32 years of Service

Firefighter Joseph McKenna

Appointed as a Firefighter 01-03-1993
Retired September 2, 2019 with over 26 years of Service

All men performed their duties with pride and distinction during years of dedicated service to the citizens of Plymouth”

11 Personnel Received Promotions in 2019

Battlion Chief Gregory Kane

Promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief 1-02-2019

Captain Neil Foley

Promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief 7-30-2019

Firefighter Samuel Palagi

Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 2-04-2019

Firefighter Bryan Russo

Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-09-2019

Firefighter Joshua Jordan

Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-08-2019

Firefighter Eric Smith

Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-17-2019

Firefighter Kenneth Gehl

Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-18-2019

Firefighter Gregory Cook
Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-19-2019

Firefighter James Preston
Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 4-20-2019

Firefighter Shawn Bell
Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 5-23-2019

Firefighter Erik Thomas
Promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant 7-12-2019

Resignations and Terminations

Firefighter Sean Dowling Jr. 5-27-2019
Firefighter Anthony DiCarlo 7-09-2019
Firefighter Robert DiCarlo 7-19-2019
Firefighter Timothy Shipley 9-28-2019
Firefighter Keith Heath 10-17-2019

New Equipment

Ladder 3 will be housed in the North Plymouth Station 7. Engine 3 will replace the current engine at the Pinehills Station 3.

Ladder 3
2019 Emergency-One Metro Quint Aerial Ladder
350 gallon water tank
1500 GPM fire pump
100' Aerial Ladder w/fixed waterway
Holmatro Hydraulic rescue tools

Engine #10 – retired trade in Greenwood- (scrap) 1995 Pierce Dash Pumping Engine

New Engine #3
2019 Emergency-One Cyclone 2 Pumping Engine
1000 gallon water tank
1500 GPM fire pump
Holmatro Hydraulic rescue tools



Fire Department Resources, Apparatus & Equipment

7 Fire Stations staffed by 139 uniformed members, 7 civilian employees and another 2 civilians employees in the Emergency Management Division.

- 10 Pumper Engines
- 3 Aerial Ladders
- 1 Rescue Truck
- 9 Brush Breakers (Forest Fire Trucks)
- 3 Tankers
- 7 boats (1 Marine firefighting unit, 6 rescue boats)
- 1 Lighting Unit –trailer
- 1 Spill Control Unit
- 2 containment boom trailers
- 1 MDU – Mass Decontamination Unit
- 1 Fire Safety Education House Trailer
- 1 Dive Team Trailer Unit
- 1 ATV unit (off-road emergency response, patient transport)
- 3 Command & Staff vehicles

The Fire Department responded to 8,879 emergencies, which resulted in 9,970 fire apparatus responses involving 26,290 personnel responses within the town including Mutual Aid apparatus responses to adjoining communities.

Total Responses	8,879 incidents	
Fire Related	37.07%	EMS Related 62.92%

Assessed Real Property Value protected by the Plymouth Fire Department

According to the Assessor's Office Plymouth has over \$9 Billion in Real Property, including dwellings, business property, vehicles, boats and marine vessels, etc... Property Loss in Plymouth due to fire in 2019 was reported at \$ 978,756. This significantly low fire loss is directly attributable to the skill and proficiency of the members of the Plymouth Fire Department. Without the prompt response of highly trained personnel and well-maintained equipment, fires would intensify, resulting in greater property loss, higher claims and risk ratings culminating in increased insurance premiums.

2019 Plymouth Fire Department NFPA Data Survey Report

Type of Response	Number of Responses	Estimated Property Damage from Fire
Private Dwelling Fires (1 or 2 family), including mobile homes	30	\$741,200
Apartments Fires (3 or more families)	6	\$17,100
Hotels and Motels Fires	1	\$0
All other residential fires (dormitories, boarding houses, tents, etc.)	0	\$0
Public Assembly Fires (church, restaurant, clubs, etc.)	3	\$1,600
Schools and Colleges Fires	0	\$0
Health Care and Penal Institutions Fires (hospitals, nursing homes, prisons)	2	\$2,500
Stores and Offices Fires	4	\$13,000
Industrial, Utility, Defense, Laboratories, Manufacturing Fires	1	\$0
Storage in Structures Fires (barn, vehicle storage garage)	1	\$10,000
Other Structure Fires (outbuildings, bridges, etc.)	3	\$1,005
Fires in Highway Vehicles (autos, trucks, buses, etc.)	25	\$133,751
Fires in Other Vehicles (planes, ships, trains, construction or farm vehicles)	3	\$60,250
Fires Outside of Structures with values involved but not vehicles (outside storage, crop, timber, etc.)	37	\$400
Fires in Brush, Grass, Wild land (excluding crops and timber)	12	
Fires in Rubbish, Including Dumpsters (outside of structures)	16	
All Other Fires	3	
Total Number of Fires 147 Firefighter injuries 22 Civilian Injuries 7		
Estimated Total Fire Loss \$978,756		

2019 Additional Department Emergency Response Statistics

Type Response	Number of Responses
100-Fire, other	3
111-Building fire	28
112-Fires in structure other than in a building	1
113-Cooking fire, confined to container	14
114-Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	3
116-Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	4
118-Trash or rubbish fire, contained	1
122-Fire in motor home, camper, recreational vehicle	1
123-Fire in portable building, fixed location	1
130-Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1
131-Passenger vehicle fire	24
132-Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1
138-Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	2
140-Natural vegetation fire, other	29
141-Forest, woods or wildland fire	4
142-Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	11
143-Grass fire	1
151-Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	4
154-Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	12
162-Outside equipment fire	4
173-Cultivated trees or nursery stock fire	1
210-Overpressure rupture from steam, other	1
240-Explosion (no fire), other	1
251-Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	7
300-Rescue, EMS incident, other	4
311-Medical assist, assist EMS crew	4,982
320-Emergency medical service incident, other	2
321-EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	6
322-Motor vehicle accident with injuries	226
323-Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	22
324-Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	313
331-Lock-in (if lock out , use 511)	6
350-Extrication, rescue, other	1
351-Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure	1
352-Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	3
353-Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	9
355-Confined space rescue	1

356-High angle rescue	2
357-Extrication of victim (s) from machinery	1
365-Watercraft rescue	4
372-Trapped by powerlines	2
381-Rescue or EMS standby	1
400-Hazardous condition, other	2
410-Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other	2
411-Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	13
412-Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	68
413-Oil or other combustible liquid spill	10
422-Chemical spill or leak	4
424-Carbon monoxide incident	53
440-Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	16
441-Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	5
442-Overheated motor	9
444-Power line down	58
445-Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	31
451-Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	1
460-Accident, potential accident, other	2
463-Vehicle accident, general cleanup	10
471-Explosive, bomb removal (for bomb scare, use	1
480-Attempted burning, illegal action, other	1
500-Service Call, other	11
510-Person in distress, other	13
511-Lock-out	44
512-Ring or jewelry removal	17
520-Water problem, other	17
522-Water or steam leak	45
531-Smoke or odor removal	46
540-Animal problem, other	1
541-Animal problem	1
542-Animal rescue	7
550-Public service assistance, other	38
551-Assist police or other governmental agency	44
552-Police matter	44
553-Public service	230
554-Assist invalid	125
555-Defective elevator, no occupants	2
561-Unauthorized burning	89
571-Cover assignment, standby, move up	13
600-Good intent call, other	61
611-Dispatched & canceled en route	373
621-Wrong location	17

622-No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	306
631-Authorized controlled burning	7
632-Prescribed fire	2
641-Vicinity alarm (incident in other location)	3
650-Steam, or other gas mistaken for smoke, other	2
651-Smoke scare, odor of smoke	16
652-Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	14
653-Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle	2
661-EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	5
671-HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	34
700-False alarm or false call, other	35
710-Malicious, mischievous false call, other	2
711-Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	12
712-Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	3
714-Central station, malicious false alarm	14
715-Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	9
721-Bomb scare – no bomb	2
730-System malfunction, other	48
731-Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	10
733-Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	309
734-Heat detector activation due to malfunction	15
735-Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	131
736-CO detector activation due to malfunction	81
740-Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	50
741-Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	17
742-Extinguishing system activation	2
743-Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	197
744-Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	68
745-Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	166
746-Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	35
800-Severe weather or natural disaster, other	1
812-Flood assessment	2
813-Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	2
814-Lightning strike (no fire)	3
900-Special type of incident, other	1
911-Citizen complaint	4

2019 Emergency Medical Care Statistics

The Town's contract ambulance, Brewster Ambulance Service; responded to 9109 medical emergencies with 6704 patients being transports to medical facilities for definitive care.

Count of Run #	
Protocol	Total
Sick Person (Protocol 26)	1772
Unknown Problem/Person Down (Protocol 32)	1326
Falls (Protocol 17)	1129
Psychiatric Problem/Abnormal Behavior/Suicide Attempt (Protocol 25)	646
Breathing Problem (Protocol 6)	561
Traffic/Transportation Incident (Protocol 29)	556
Unconscious/Fainting/Near-Fainting (Protocol 31)	381
No Other Appropriate Choice	376
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic) (Protocol 10)	370
Abdominal Pain/Problems (Protocol 1)	284
Convulsions/Seizure (Protocol 12)	252
Overdose/Poisoning/Ingestion (Protocol 23)	205
Well Person Check	141
Stroke/CVA (Protocol 28)	139
Diabetic Problem (Protocol 13)	138
Traumatic Injury (Protocol 30)	121
Back Pain (Non-Traumatic) (Protocol 5)	119
Hemorrhage/Laceration (Protocol 21)	112
Heart Problems/AICD (Protocol 19)	86
Assault/Sexual Assault/Stun Gun (Protocol 4)	78
Allergic Reaction/Stings (Protocol 2)	65
Headache (Protocol 18)	58
Cardiac Arrest/Death (Protocol 9)	54
Choking (Protocol 11)	35
Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	31
Pregnancy/Childbirth/Miscarriage (Protocol 24)	13
Standby	10
Eye Problem/Injury (Protocol 16)	8
Animal Bites/Attack (Protocol 3)	8
Fire	7
Facility Discharge	5
Carbon Monoxide/Hazmat/Inhalation (Protocol 8)	5
Heat/Cold Exposure (Protocol 20)	5
Stab/Gunshot Wound/Penetrating Trauma (Protocol 27)	4
Burns/Explosion (Protocol 7)	3
Drowning/Diving/SCUBA Accident (Protocol 14)	3
Inaccessible Incident/Other Entrapments (Non-Vehicle) (Protocol 22)	2
Healthcare Professional/Admission	1
Grand Total	9109

FIRE PREVENTION and CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
2019 End of Year Report

The Fire Prevention & Code Enforcement Division is staffed by a Battalion Chief and one Lieutenant.

Mission Statement

It is the responsibility of the Division to promote public safety by limiting the occurrence of fire, identifying conditions that may lead to ignition and abating hazards that jeopardize life safety. Our goal is to provide a fire safe home, work and school environment. This is primarily accomplished through public fire safety education, enforcement of the Commonwealth's fire codes and regulations, Town by-laws and through inspections, plan review and permitting.

Training and Continuing Education

Fire Inspectors attend monthly continuing education seminars sponsored by the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts. Current issues relating to fire codes and fire safety are shared among the Fire Inspectors along with updates from the State Fire Marshal Office. They also attend continuing educational training courses offered by the Massachusetts Fire Academy in Stow, Mass.

Construction Plan Review and Permits

The fire department reviews construction plans to assure that adequate fire protection systems are being installed and maintained to all applicable codes and regulations. They consist of smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, sprinkler systems, and BDA radio signal boosting systems, in both residential and commercial buildings. Once they are installed the Fire Prevention division inspects each one prior to occupancy being obtained.

There were many businesses that utilized existing, and rehabilitated spaces to meet their specific needs. Inspections were done to ensure compliance in those facilities as well. There were several new commercial projects and renovations that took place. Several new commercial projects are in the planning stages that the Fire Prevention Office maintains close review. New commercial projects included: several space buildings, a new medical office building, the Fairfield Inn, TJMaxx, HomeGoods, Ollies Bargain Outlet, and Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital continues with its renovations to upgrade its wings and support systems.

There was a multitude of new restaurants that were opened including, UVA's Wine Bar, 3 V's, Five Guys, Chick-Fil-A, Chipotle, Jersey Mikes, and 110 Grill.

Aside from the large amount of one and two family residential new construction and renovations, there are also several on-going residential multi-family developments which include Red Brook, Thorndike Homes 55+ communities, Harborside at Cordage (phase 1 has been completed, and Phase 2 has been submitted). The Pine Hills has also submitted plans for a new commercial/residential complex, the Oasis at Home Depot plans are underway, and Newfield Street development is nearing completion.

Inspections

In addition to new construction, it is also the responsibility of the Fire Prevention Division to conduct Statutory annual inspections at all schools, nursing facilities, hospitals, clinical institutions,

Plymouth County Correctional Facility, MCI-Forestry Camp, group homes, daycare centers and other facilities licensed by the Department of Public Health and/or Department of Public Welfare.

We issue certification of compliance for smoke & CO detectors for the sale of any residential units.

We conduct inspections of oil-fired equipment, including all above and underground tank installations and removals, installations propane tanks. self-service gas stations, and hood suppression system. We oversee the department's Mercantile inspection program

Code Enforcement

Complaints received from concerned citizens and observations made by department personnel during routine inspections and emergency responses initiate investigations by fire inspectors to determine if a fire hazard or code violation exists and to bring about compliance through education as a first resort. If an owner or tenant refuses to comply or bring conditions into compliance with fire or life safety codes, a fine will be assessed using non-criminal citations. Further non-compliance can result in complaints filed via the court system.

During 2019, the fire prevention division responded to numerous calls for issues such as: violation of open burning regulations, failure to install or maintain fire protection systems, blocked fire exits, and improper storage of flammables and combustibles.

Citations were issued where required.

Fire Investigation

Investigating the origin and cause of a fire is vital to determine whether the fire is accidental or intentional, the result of a malicious or criminal human act, design flaw or equipment malfunction, carelessness or poor practice. By finding the circumstances responsible for ignition of the fire, we can attempt to reduce future occurrences of fire loss by changing behavior through education, altering product design or operation, or promulgating new ordinances to bring about code compliance.

Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors save lives and are required by law and as always, we stress the importance of possessing and maintaining these devices in homes. The trend for voluntary installation of residential fire sprinkler systems is a logical choice during new construction as it adds only a fraction of the square foot cost to the project. Residential fire sprinklers enhance life safety by reacting quickly to the heat of a fire, while it is still in the beginning stage and relatively small. Fire sprinklers give occupants a chance to exit to safety and are a proven lifesaver. An added benefit is that they control the fire and reduce property damage.

Public Fire and Life Safety Education

The main goal of the S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) program is to educate students in grades K-12, the public and the elderly about key fire and life safety behaviors to reduce fires and the likelihood of injury or death. Funding for this program revolves around an annual grant application submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. This year, the Fire Prevention office received a grant for \$6848.00 in support of our S.A.F.E. program. Our S.A.F.E. program provides a full range of presentations reaching out not only to schools, but also to senior citizens

through monthly meetings set up with the Council on Aging and Safety Fairs at Mobile home parks. The Fire Prevention office also received a grant for the Senior Safe Program totaling \$3826.00. Coordinated by the Council on Aging staff, several in-home inspections by our Fire Prevention Lieutenant were performed along with over three dozen public school visits.

The S.A.F.E. grant supports our fire safety trailer, fire station open house events, educating the public at health fairs, festivals and community events. Fire Safety and Fall Prevention educational programs are also offered to seniors, boys and girls organizations, school children on field trips and other community organizations who visit fire stations for tours throughout the year. Events took place at several of the elementary schools, and Early Childhood Fair. Fire Prevention Week educated the community at the Redbrook YMCA, Old Navy and Home Depot and the Plymouth Air Show. Contests for fire prevention calendar artwork, conducted in concert with the State Fire Marshal and the Fire Prevention Division, saw students from and Plymouth South Middle School win scholarships for the fire prevention calendar.

Specially trained firefighters present lessons on topics such as Learn Not to Burn, Preparing and Practicing Home Fire Escape Drills, Electrical Safety, Ice and Cold-Water Emergencies, Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Home Safety Inspections.

2019 FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS

Inspections

Acceptance Testing	
Commercial and Residential Systems	2099
Quarterly	
Hospitals/Medical	12
Nursing Homes	24
Hotel/Motels/Lodging	
Schools	64
Annual	
Liquor License Establishments	151
Group-Homes	7
Day Care Centers	12
Restaurants	20
Churches	8
Fueling Facilities	26

Permits Issued

Plan Review	242
Fuel Storage	58
U.G. Fuel Storage Tanks Removed	22
Smoke Detectors New Construction & Resale	1857
Oil Burning Equipment	84

Fire Alarm Systems	58
Hood Suppression	8
Sprinkler	96
Tank Trucks	6
Propane Tanks	144
Gun Powder	3
Blasting	0
Cut & Weld	52
Un-vented Gas Heaters	11
Propane Cylinder Exchange Sites	13
Liquor License	151
Bon Fire	9
Waste Oil Tank	18
Dumpster	21
Marine Fuel Facilities	5
Master Box	241
Fireworks	1
Canon and Mortar Firing	3
Burning Permits issued	887

Total Permits issued **4314**

2019 Fire Alarm Division Report

Superintendent of Fire Alarm

The Municipal Fire Alarm System continues to grow with new commercial developments. New alarms are tied into the system at no cost to the taxpayer and utilize existing circuits or radio boxes.

2019 Fire Alarm Report

Zachary J. Lynch Superintendent of Fire Alarm

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New Boxes 2019

- 29 Plymouth Airport- Crash Box, 246 South Meadow Road
- 224 Plymouth Airport- New Admin Bldg., 246 South Meadow Road
- 2552 Sawyer's Reach Bldg. 2, 2 Mariner's Way
- 2857 Mayflower Landing, 41 Resnik Road
- 4232 Red Brook Apartments, 214 Wareham Road
- 4233 Red Brook Apartments, 208 Wareham Road
- 7831 Seaport at Cordage Park, 30 Loring Boulevard

Incidents Reported through the Municipal System 2019

- 1/25/2019 Box 1597 NAPA Auto Parts, 21 Robert J Way, Electrical Fire
- 2/4/2019 Box 4231 YMCA, 2 Greenside Way South, Electrical Fire

4/7/2019 Box 1531 Plymouth Rehabilitation and Health Care, 123 South Street, smoke condition due to burned out HVAC belt and motor.

4/29/2018 Box 2127 Colonial Ford, 11 Pilgrim Hill Road; Vehicle fire.

5/8/2019 Box 1541 Information Center, 5 Long Pond Road; Fire in a fryolator.

6/4/2019 Box 3122 Laurelwood at the Pinehills, 10 Golf Drive; Medical Emergency

7/28/2019 Box 1222 BID Plymouth, Off Obery Street; Overheated equipment.

9/19/2019 Box 2412 Spring Hill Apartments, 85 Summer Street; Stove fire.

Projects for 2019

Two major road projects are currently underway and required relocation or replacement of the Fire Alarm cable due to utility poles being moved. The first project was the Taylor Avenue Bridge project which required replacement of most of the cable on Taylor Avenue. The second project is the first phase of the Obery Street/ South Street project. In this phase, five master boxes were converted over to radio master boxes. All costs of these projects are big reimbursed by MassDOT. A section of cable on Warren Avenue was upgraded with self-supporting Figure-8 cable. Figure-8 cable is a multi-conductor cable with a steel messenger strand for better aerial support. This cable is more durable than the older cable. Painting and refurbishing of the Fire Alarm pedestals started in October and will continue in the spring.

New radios were installed in the new Ladder 3 and the new Engine 3. Low voltage power supplies at Stations 1 and 4 were upgraded as well.

Training and Safety Division

Mission Statement

The training division is responsible for the development, implementation, design, delivery and documentation of educational programs involving all members of the department. Training programs are intended to improve the firefighter's capabilities while performing emergency duties such as, emergency medical services, rescue and hazardous material response, as well as meeting the requirements and objectives of Federal and State agencies.

This responsibility includes needs assessment, curriculum development, and scheduling and records management. Courses on supervisory development, new products and apparatus and other specialized training are conducted on an as needed basis.

Minimum training standards are established by Local, State and Federal agencies. Training takes on a variety of forms, from self-study to mandatory department training. All training done by the Firefighter must be documented as required by law. This documentation provides the legal verification for training completed.

The Training division is responsible for the managing the wide range of training related documents, reports and records necessary for maintaining required certification for the department's emergency response personnel.

The Training Division ensures the department's training meets, OSHA, NFPA and ISO requirements as well as all State and federal regulations. This responsibility requires the Training Officer to work with State agencies including The Office of Emergency Medical Services and the Division of Fire Services.

The Training Officer coordinates and schedules Department's In-house Drills. The purpose of this drill packages is to review basic suppression and EMS materials that aid personnel with maintaining knowledge of specific topics. This training is delivered to personnel by the company officers.

In addition to this in-service training the Training Officer also serves as the department's drill instructor for all newly hired firefighters. This recruit-training program introduces all probationary firefighters to the basic skills necessary to survive and function in the hostile environment of a structure or forest fire. This program prepares the individual to meet the standards set by the NFPA for certification for Firefighter 1 and 2.

The Training Division constantly evaluates and coordination training with other divisions within the department. The training of members on new equipment and implementation of procedures for new equipment are coordinated by the Training Officer.

The training Officer is also the Department's Safety Officer. The Safety Officer's duties include responding to fires and hazardous incidents to oversee Scene Safety. The Training Officer also serves as the department's state mandated Infection Control Officer and is the Department's liaison to the Jordan hospital. The Infection Control Officer is responsible to enforce policies and procedure to ensure department member's health safety and tracking and documenting any exposures and injuries that occurred while on duty as required by State and Federal regulations.

Recruit Training For New Hires

In 2019 the Training Division has run two separate recruit classes. Each class eight weeks in length. These classes get the new recruit ready to operate as a probationary firefighter until his or her Mass Fire Academy slot opens up. This course not only tests new recruits physically, but mentally. The new recruits learn nomenclature of all firefighting gear and tools, but also hands on practical evolutions in Search and Rescue, Vehicle Extrication, First Aid, CPR and First Responder qualifications. Recruits are taught Wildland Fire Operations and a Chainsaw Safety Course we have developed with State Fire Warden and his Class2 Sawyers. Due to the fact that every station has a boat as well as the Department Fire Boat, we have the recruits go through a Safe Boating Course with the Mass Environmental Police to get certified. 2019 Recruit Class 1 had 17 recruits, this was the largest recruit class to date. The second class had eight.

The head of the Training Division also is in charge of the Underwater Recovery Unit. This team consists of 30 members, Divers, Tenders, and Support personnel. Each member has gone through rigorous training and certifications through Lifeguard Systems Public Safety Diving. The team members have International Certifications in Public Safety Diving/Tending, Moving Water Operations, Underwater Vehicle Extrication, Black Water, Full Face Mask and Drysuit Certified as well as Ice Diving Search and Recovery. The Underwater Recovery Unit also has a Side Scan Sonar Team that utilizes the Edgetech 4125 Side Scan Sonar for body recovery or evidence location. The Team has worked alongside of mutual aid towns, The Mass State Police, Plymouth County Tech Rescue,

Barnstable County Tech Rescue, Plymouth Police and Mass Environmental Police as well as the Coast Guard and Harbormaster of Plymouth and mutual aid towns.

Training and Safety Division won MIIA grants for high visibility DOT vests as well as vehicle extrication gloves and eye protection.

Training and Safety Division has implemented Mass Fire Academy instructors to conduct Cancer in the Fire Services to all department personnel. This is to combat the enormously high rates of occupational cancer. D-Con protocols using HERO WIPES and detergents are now implemented during and after fires and any event where firefighters may be exposed to toxins. The department upgraded their SCBA Mask fit tester to the new TSI Porta Count Fit Tester. SCBA Masks are fitted with Scott Thermal Imaging Cameras for extra safety. Personnel have been issued new helmets with washable liners to comply with Cancer Protocols as well as particulate hoods.

Due to the tragic events of today's world with mass shootings. All personnel have had added training in gunshot wounds and tourniquets. Other added training was pet CPR and oxygen masks for pets.

Apparatus Repair & Maintenance Division

The mission of the Apparatus Repair and Maintenance Division is to properly supply and maintain all of the department's emergency apparatus while ensuring compliance with National Fire Protection Association, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, and Massachusetts General Laws to provide safer equipment for departmental personnel and the community.

In addition to general heavy truck powertrain components strong knowledge of fire pumps, hydraulics, aerial systems, and electronic multiplex systems are required to maintain such specialized equipment. Fire apparatus must be properly maintained to obtain operational readiness at all times.

The staff maintains a fleet of over 40 specialized fire apparatus; such as pumping engines, aerial ladder trucks, brush-breakers, rescue trucks, specialty units, trailers, marine response units, command vehicles, support vehicles, small engines, and fire-fighting tools. Responses to fire scenes take place for emergency repairs and technical assistance to render operational professionalism. During the year annual third party non-destructive testing of aerial devices, ground ladders, and inspection of all vehicles to conform to federal and state agencies takes place under their supervision.

Last year's annual Town Meeting funded the third mechanic position for this division to expand with the departments growing maintenance requirements. A revolving annual cooperative position with the Plymouth School Technical Program has begun and has been a great success to date. Apparatus mechanics attend monthly educational training seminars and annual certification testing hosted both by the New England Fire Apparatus Maintenance Association and Emergency Vehicle Certification Commission. Staff is thoroughly involved in the technical design and specification development of new apparatus, safety updates, pre-delivery vehicle inspection, final acceptance testing and operational training for fire department personnel.

Office of Emergency Management

Mission Statement

The mission of the Plymouth Office of Emergency Management is to coordinate efforts to prevent, mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from local emergencies and disasters. This is accomplished by working with Town Departments and other partnerships to ensure plans, resources, and procedures are developed and maintained to safeguard the public against community vulnerabilities and the effects of these hazards.

2019 brought new challenges and beginnings for the Office of Emergency Management. I want to take an opportunity share with the community for what I believe has been a very successful year. As we all now realize, there were many challenges throughout the last twelve months.

Fortunately, last winter, major storms took a different direction and spared Plymouth from serious damage. However, preparedness, response, potential sheltering, and recovery planning were always at the forefront from January through March.

In 2018, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that the President had issued a Major Disaster Declaration that made federal disaster assistance available for the severe winter storm of March 2-3, 2018. Federal aid was made available to cities and towns, state agencies and certain non-profits in five counties to help cover storm-related response and repair costs as a result of this severe winter storm. For the last eighteen months, the Office of Emergency Management and the Town's Finance Department continue to collectively work together to process and apply for public assistance funds to collect seventy-five percent of the eligible costs associated with the Town's response and damage repair projects associated with that storm.

Roni Bosse was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the Office of Emergency Management. Roni brings with her a wealth of office management experience with a strong background in financial management and fiscal accountability. She has been a huge addition and asset to the office.

The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station shut the reactor down on May 31. However, what we were able to accomplish amidst of the many uncertainties that the radiological planning community faced in 2019 is quite remarkable. The Office of Emergency Management remained vigilant to assuring that public safety remained paramount and was the priority for the Division under the overall command and direction of Chief Bradley.

The nuclear reactor shutting down did not slow down our efforts to better prepare the community. Radiological training and community site visits continued as we mustered with school officials, daycare management, and community service professionals to review emergency plans for a radiological emergency. These meetings are consistent with established state and federal plans to assure annual objectives are met in order to comply with federal certification requirements. A representative from the Federal Emergency Management Agency comes to Plymouth and visits a few of our schools, daycares, and skilled care facilities to interview employees about their radiological emergency preparedness.

Community Site Visits

Daycares (3)

Schools (1)

Special Service Agency (1)

Annual Community Training

Schools (2)

Camp (1)

Daycare (1)

On October 14 (Columbus Day), the Emergency Operations Center was placed into emergency action as the Fire Department Headquarters was deemed inhabitable due to an infestation of dirt and debris occurring during a roof replacement. Always ready, the facility was able to provide complete Fire Department administrative and inspection services until November 25, when the headquarters station was deemed safe and clean to re-open. The capability to provide continuous operations has been a priority for the staff for the last few years. Critical support from Chief Bradley and Anthony DiMauro, the Fire Department's assigned Information Technology Support Specialist was essential in order to accomplish the mission at hand.

On November 6th, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Plymouth Emergency Operations Center accomplished a radiological table-top and review exercise. Every year, we test our competency to follow our established Standard Operating Procedures to effectively manage a radiological emergency. If an event were to occur, our Emergency Operations Center is fully staffed with Town employees and Plymouth Public School officials alongside a strong cadre of dedicated community volunteers standing ready to engage with a highest level of professionalism.

In closing, we initiated a very comprehensive planning effort for the many events that will encompass the Plymouth 400 celebration in 2020. This continuing effort has been ongoing as I have reached out many outside agencies and received valuable support and assistance.