

## **From the Chief**

As we conclude another year of service to the Canton Township community it is time we reflect on the past year. In 2019 we continued to strive to meet our “Mission” in providing excellent customer service to our residents and community. The members of the department from administration, to office staff, to shift personnel all play a role in making this possible.

This past year we were able to continue and improve upon the training of our members to make sure they are equipped to handle any call for service. The shift personnel are to be commended for the work they do and the professionalism they show while doing it. We experienced an improvement in the Fire Prevention Division becoming much more efficient and effective in our community outreach. We have continued to improve our Apparatus Maintenance Division by investing in the position and reducing costly major repair expenses. The office staff has continued to perform at a high level while taking on more tasks and handling a various array of request and demands throughout the year.

Assistant Chief Morabito has continued to improve and enhance our Training Division to continue the departments growth. Along with this he has been instrumental in assisting with the day-to-day operations and service delivery of the organization.

These are the people who have made 2019 another successful year. With the construction of our new fire station and the time and effort it takes to complete, it would not be possible without everyone’s support. The anticipation of opening the new station for the department and community is something to be proud of and embraced for 2020 and years to come.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for their continued support.

Thank you to the Canton Township Community for your support.

Thank you to the men and women of the Canton Township Fire Department for your dedication and hard work.

Christopher Smith OFE, OFC  
Fire Chief  
Canton Township Fire Department

## **Mission Statement**

The Canton Township Fire Department is dedicated to protecting and serving our community with a commitment to professionalism and service excellence.

## **Vision Statement**

The Canton Township Fire Department will strive to maintain, and build upon, our commitment to safety, training, and customer service. This will be accomplished by adapting and changing within our department to meet the needs of the community we serve.

## **Organizational Values**

- We value honesty and integrity in all matters, leading to the highest level of trustworthiness;
- We value respect for each person as an individual, recognizing the worth of our subordinates, peers, supervisors and customers;
- We value teamwork, as each person's capabilities enhance our performance as a whole;
- We value responsibility, taking ownership of our actions and committing to our assigned objectives;
- We value professional pride, adhering to a strong code of moral and ethical conduct;
- We value compassion, fostering a genuine concern for those we serve;
- We value safety, ensuring our own health as well as the safety of our team and those we serve;
- We value diversity of the people in our department and our community;
- We value training and education as the foundation of superior service;
- We value commitment, working through any adversity to meet the community's needs.

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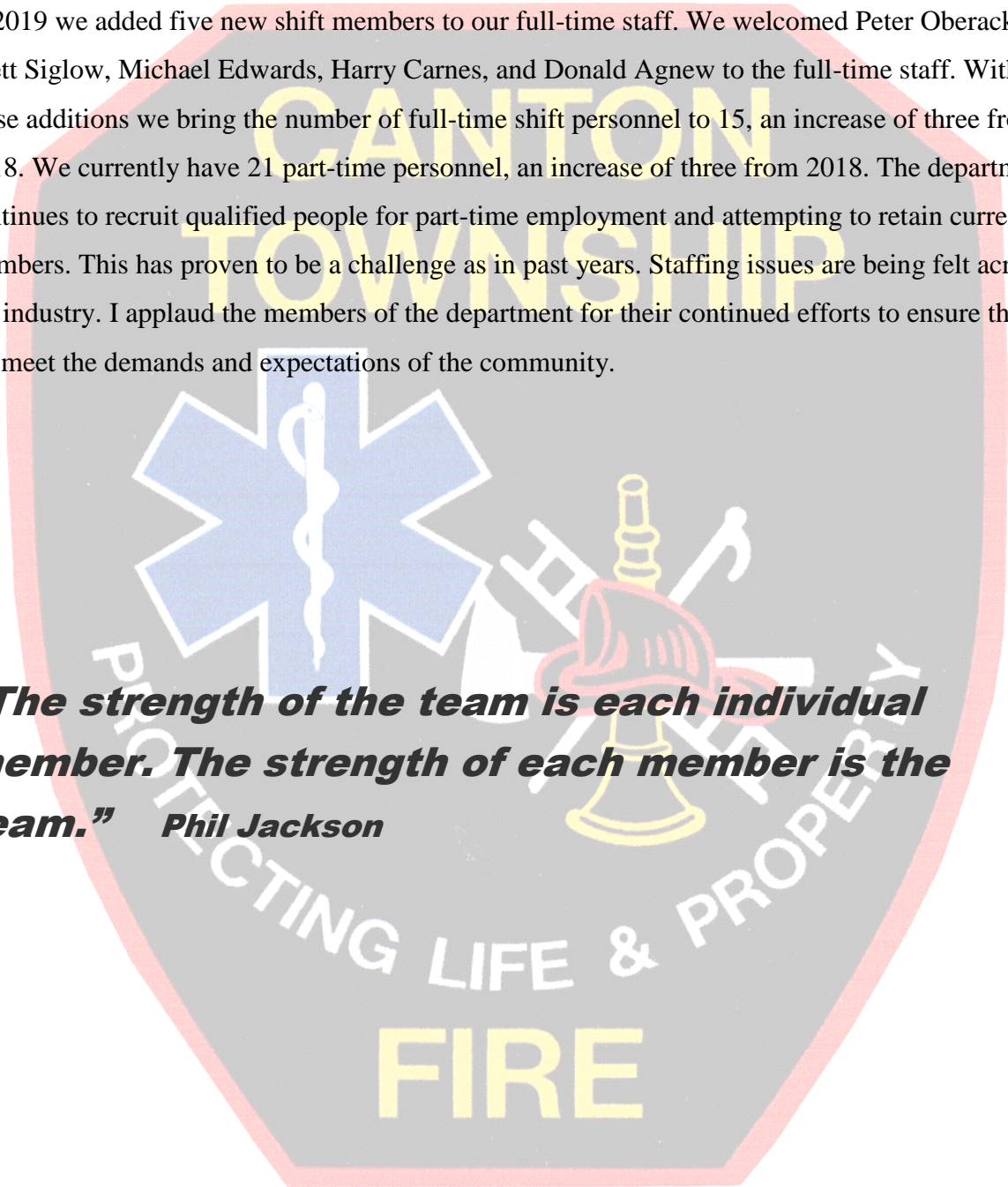
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***“What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.”—Albert Pike***



## Personnel

In 2019 we added five new shift members to our full-time staff. We welcomed Peter Oberacker, Brett Siglow, Michael Edwards, Harry Carnes, and Donald Agnew to the full-time staff. With these additions we bring the number of full-time shift personnel to 15, an increase of three from 2018. We currently have 21 part-time personnel, an increase of three from 2018. The department continues to recruit qualified people for part-time employment and attempting to retain current members. This has proven to be a challenge as in past years. Staffing issues are being felt across the industry. I applaud the members of the department for their continued efforts to ensure that we meet the demands and expectations of the community.



***“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.” Phil Jackson***

## New Fire Station One



It has been years in the making, but in 2019 we realized that vision and ground was broke for Canton Townships new fire station. This location of the station is at 210 38<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. adjacent to the Community Center and Fire Administration offices. The project was started in June with a completion date of mid-December. This station will meet the demands of the department and community by being more centrally located within our busiest area for calls for service. The new station will also house our Apparatus Maintenance Division. The station design was done by Caplea Studio Architects with N.L. Construction as the general contractor. The cost of the project was \$1,810,295, of which \$925,000 were funds saved, and the remaining \$885,295 was financed at a low interest rate. This project has been in the planning stages for a better part of 10 years with an initial location of Faircrest Park. Since the old Amos school building was purchased by the Board in 2010 the focus had shifted to repurposing the building to include a fire station. Chief Mckibben had initiated the original plans for the station prior to his passing. We have since realized that vision and look forward to decades of service to the community.











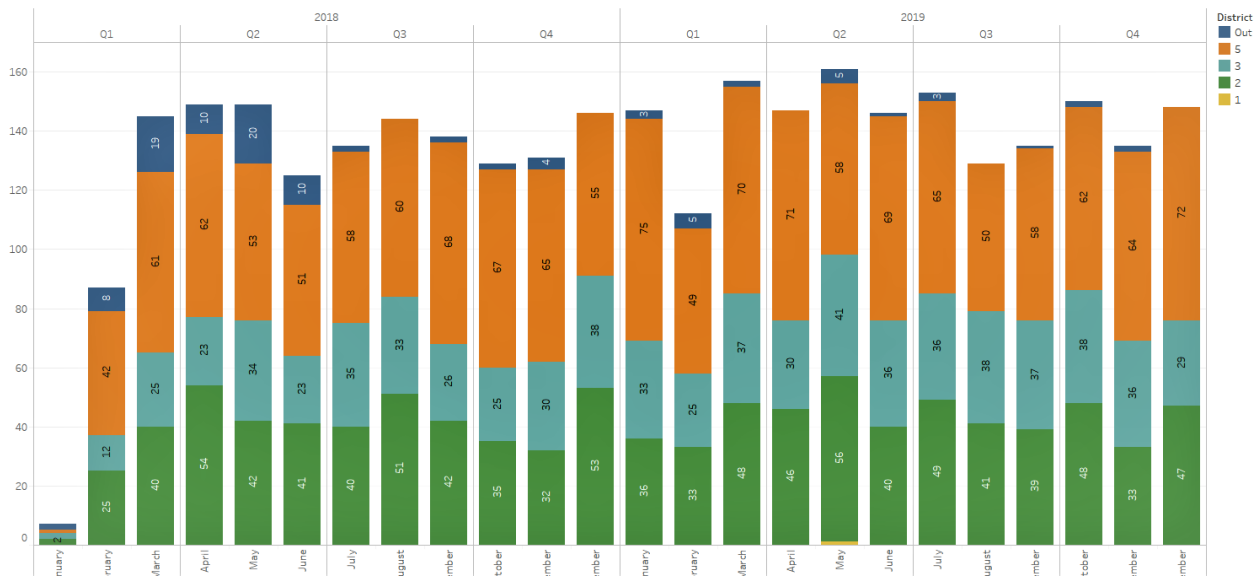
We will be relocating equipment and personnel from station five on Sherman Church S.W. Responding from this new location will be an ALS ambulance, our ladder truck, and the Shift Commander. We will be relocating some other department resources to better respond within the township.

**We will be hosting an open house on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 6:30pm with a formal dedication of the new station to the community.**



## EMS STATISTICS

Incidents By Year By District



The emergency medical services that our department provides continues to be the highest volume of calls that we respond to. In 2019, we responded to 1,759 EMS related calls. This number includes lift assists and motor vehicle accidents. That number has increased approximately 7.5% from 2018 where 1,637 EMS related calls were reported. A large majority of those calls for service were in the District 5 coverage area. This is the area that the new Station 1 will be providing coverage.

As I look forward to 2020, I hope to continue to enhance the EMS services we provide. I plan to continue to bring in quality education opportunities for our members. This directly impacts our residents by ensuring our members are provided with the most up to date education. I look forward to seeing reduced response times with the implementation of the new Station 1. Finally, I plan on applying for the American Heart Association's Mission Lifeline EMS Recognition program. This program looks at care metrics and how we compare to other agencies throughout the country. I would like to take a moment to thank the Board of Trustees, and Fire Administration for their continued support of our organization. Providing quality EMS care to the community takes many resources and we would not be able to do it without your help. Thank you!

Respectfully,

Michael R. Yurkonis, NRP, EMS-I Shift Commander / EMS Coordinator

***“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Mahatma Gandhi***

## FIRE STATISTICS

### Incidents Type By Year

	Grand Total	2017	2018	2019
Grand Total	190	59	60	71
Unauthorized burning	86	29	24	33
Building fire	57	15	19	23
Grass fire	12	5	5	2
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	12	4	5	3
Cooking fire, confined to container	7	4	1	2
Fire, other	3			3
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	2		1	1
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	2		1	1
Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	2		1	1
Fires in structure other than in a building	2	2		
Natural vegetation fire, other	2		1	1
Special outside fire, other	2		1	1
Forest, woods or wildland fire	1		1	

In 2019 we responded to 71 fire related incidents compared to 60 in 2018 an 18% increase. Of these calls 23 were for structure fires which was an increase a 21% increase from 2018. As you can see fire related calls range from a variety of categories and are dictated by the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). We have been diligently working with our local businesses to reduce the number of false alarms we respond to. This includes education of employees and working with alarm companies to identify problem areas. This enables us to be more efficient and available to handle other emergency calls.

### Incidents Type By Year

	Grand Total	2017	2018	2019
Grand Total	364	92	149	123
Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	97	23	45	29
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	69	20	27	22
Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	48	20	19	9
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	39		23	16
Carbon monoxide incident	33	7	12	14
Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	26	11	10	5
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	23	4	5	14
CO detector activation due to malfunction	17	2	4	11
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	10	5	3	2
False alarm or false call, other	2		1	1



## TRAINING DIVISION

As a public safety organization, we are called upon to mitigate and stabilize the demands of our community on many levels. Calls for service and scope of operations continue to increase, resulting in growth opportunity. In order to achieve success within our mission, it is imperative that we strive to prepare, develop, and train our members effectively. The training focus and accomplishments for 2019 proved once again to be a successful year for both the organization and personnel development. Please see the following for a breakdown of the year's company training focus:

- Annual gear inspections and testing.
- Updated county MARC's radio system and its use.
- First due fire response operations. This is performed on the company level, honing communications and psychomotor skills required for high risk incidents.
- Full-time member orientation. This was a full orientation course for the five new fulltime members, involving all personnel's assistance in new member training.
- Surface water rescue training. This was intended to be part one of a multi-scope training involving water rescue operations. This encompassed the use of new equipment purchased this year and training for incidents involving surface water rescue, such as Myers Lake. The training was also the start of a joint team response with Plain Township FD.
- Rope rescue technical operations (multi-month focus). The members of the department engaged in a series of rope rescue operations. These trainings encompassed; developing anchors, building haul systems, securing safety lines, patient packaging, and elevated rescues.
- Fire ground communications. This topic is a continued focal point, enforcing how to effectively communicate with scene size-up conditions, initiate actions, and effectively relay needs from additional response units.
- Review of Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI) operations. Members were given the time to review and conduct MCI operations. This was in conjunction with our local high school staff and law enforcement personnel. Our department was provided an ability to test our operations within this scope at a scaled down active shooter drill conducted at the Canton South High School.
- Annual Hazardous Material refresher. Crews reviewed scene size-up and hazard identification/safety. Training was conducted by Lance Wilcox, whom also reviewed rail related emergencies.

**The 2019 Training Hours Totaled = 4,082- Hours**

Individual training's have also continued for our members. This personal development has strengthened our capabilities and created individual growth.

- Two full-time members (Captain Keener & Firefighter Whitsett) obtained their basic fire investigation certifications. This will assist with staffing investigators on duty for basic cause and origin, vs. calling members back-in, following a fire incident.

- Two full-time members sent to a Rescue Task Force (RTF) course. This provides insight to future development and trainings for FD operations being conducted in coordination with law enforcement personnel in an active shooter incident.
- Three of the five new full-time members attended a Hazard Recognition Officer (HRO) course. This class is a requirement for full-time employment with the department, per the CBA. This certification provides our staff the ability to aid Inspector Beachy in conducting inspections for our community businesses. The remaining two personnel will obtain this certification in 2020.

As we move into the 2020 year, our anticipation of accomplishments and goals will continue to align with the professionalism and preparation for our organization and personnel. This focus results in a development model which provides the Canton Township Community with the best public safety service possible.

We conducted 41 CPR classes in 2019. This consisted of 171 high school students, 11 instructors, and 81 various other students for a total of 263.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or general inquiries regarding our training division detail and focus for 2020.

Thank you for your support,

Rick Morabito, Assistant Fire Chief, OFC  
Canton Township Fire Department



"The extra mile is the stretch of road that is never crowded." Chief Jim Moore



## APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

Two- 2015 Ford ALS Ambulances

2014 Ford ALS Ambulance

2002 Ford ALS Ambulance- Reserve

2017 Pierce fire engine/rescue

2016 Pierce 75ft ladder truck/rescue (quint)

2006 Spartan fire engine

2004 Tanker

2004 Freightliner mini pump

Two- 2017 Ford Explorers- Chief and Assistant Chief

2015 Ford Explorer- Shift Commander

2011 Chevy Equinox- Fire Prevention

2015 Ford F-250- Mechanic

2001 Playtime Pontoon boat- Meyers Lake

1997 International tractor

2005 Mobile Training Tower

Zodiac rescue boat and trailer



## **FIRE INVESTIGATION BUREAU**

Canton Township Fire Department split the Fire Prevention Bureau into two separate bureaus January of 2019. The Fire Prevention Bureau and the Fire Investigation Bureau. This was done due to operations and personnel changes.

The Fire Investigation Bureau currently consists of five investigators, and a sixth investigator which is used when necessary due to his primary job being the full-time mechanic for the fire department. The bureau has a lead investigator appointed by the Fire Chief who oversees the bureau, reviews investigation reports, finalize reports, and oversees the daily operations of the bureau.

The goals for the Fire Investigation Bureau are to have two investigators on each shift and FF Gonyer and myself to attend and complete advance fire investigation class. The fall of 2019 the department sent BC Keener and FF Whitsett to Basic Fire Investigations Class. The Bureau still needs one investigator for 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift to accomplish the goal of having two fire investigators on each shift. FF Gonyer and myself were to complete the Advance Fire Investigations Class the spring of 2019 but the class was cancelled by Bowling Green University. The goal is to complete this in 2020.

2019 was a busy year for the Fire Investigation Bureau. The Bureau investigated 27 structure fires. This is an increase of 7 from 2018 which was 20 structure fires. This includes residential, mobile homes, duplexes, garages, and industrial structures. The Canton Township Fire Department responded to several other type's fires, and the Fire Investigation Bureau investigated several of these. These fires include vehicle fires, trash fires, cooking fires confined to container, grass/brush fires, and chimney fires contained to chimney. There were 52 fire type calls the Canton Township Fire Department responded to for 2019.

The estimated dollar loss from fires for the year of 2019 was \$408,500.00 which includes the structures and contents. The estimated dollar saved for the year 2019 was \$3,477,000.00 which includes the structures and contents. Canton Township Fire Department had no fatalities for 2019, thankfully.

Prepared by  
Shift Commander Chris Putnam  
Lead Fire Investigator



## **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISON**

### **Fire Safety Inspections,**

Completing 280 inspections re-inspections in Canton Township Businesses. Out of all the inspections there are still a few unresolved issues. The quality of the inspections via compliance is around 98% overall. I assisted the State Fire Marshal's Office Code Inspector with yearly inspections at the Motels in the Township. Assisted the Health Department with a Restaurant questions regarding the kitchen area.

### **Daycares & Foster Homes,**

Canton Township has five licensed daycares that have yearly inspections. Three foster homes and adult group home inspections this year.

### **Activities,**

I had 170 activity reports this year. Everything from installing smoke alarms, locking keys in Knox Boxes, making contact with businesses, fire alarm testing, and sprinkler testing. Had a few plan reviews on the building and safety equipment such as fire alarms & sprinklers etc.

### **Fire Suppression Systems, Equipment & Alarms,**

I conducted 12 inspections and or testing on systems, equipment & alarms. I worked with a few different businesses that disabled or neglected maintenance on their systems to get them back in compliance and operating safely.

### **Knox Boxes**

I installed 13 new Knox boxes in businesses that have monitored fire safety equipment, alarms etc. Per the Township Resolution NO. 01-02-05 we are 97% compliant.

### **Fire Drills/ Lockdowns**

I attended 11 drills at the schools & businesses. Working closely with the resource officers. Two business assisted with fire evacuation drills for the first time. With the

guidance, they will assist us in the event of an emergency at their assisted with a couple fire extinguisher classes at businesses.

### **Home Safety Surveys - Smoke Alarm Installs**

I had five requests by the crews who seen that our residents needed assistance. Six smoke alarm requests from the crews. Canton Township bought 26 smoke alarms and they were installed in 11 homes. Since, we have partnered with The Red Cross and get free smoke alarms. We have installed 116 smoke alarms in 51 homes.

Saving the township over \$3,400.00 in smoke alarm costs.

Total of 148 working smoke alarms in 63 Township homes this year that didn't have any working or had expired alarms. We have been in over 70 homes from home surveys, smoke alarm installs, and batteries installed in smoke alarms.

### **Fire Prevention & Education,**

Four Station tours, 10 public relation events that were attended by myself and or the crews. Including Myers Lake YMCA where the kids went through The Safe Kids Fire Safety Trailer. No open house this year with the construction going on at Fire Administration. Canton Township has reached 1800 children & residents in some capacity, not mentioning the safety messages on our Facebook page and station signs.

### **Safety Literature & Material**

2019 Permit fees from inspections and testing \$1,447.00. 2019 children fire hats & material cost \$1,060.00.

2016 through 2018 the average spent on safety literature was \$1,817.

Respectfully,

Michael Beachy- Fire Prevention and Education Division

**“Fire Prevention... Do it for Life”**

**“Fire Prevention Is Our Intention”**



## **APPARATUS AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

In Closing out this 2019 year, I want to Thank the Board of Trustees, Chief Smith and Chief Morabito for all of your Support and resources made available to me. This has been a busy year of maintaining our equipment and buildings. It has also been a year of me personally growing my Knowledge, Confidence and Ability to Professionally handle all aspects of this newly created position within the department. I am excited and looking forward to the 2020 year and all that it brings our way.

### **Equipment maintenance and repair**

Completed Work Orders:

(21 Vehicles, 545 services)

- 117 - corrective maintenance
- 73 - preventive maintenance (PM)
- 8 - Warranty repairs
- 29 - "Other" type services
- 7 - station repairs/work

Work Orders on 21 Different Units both in shop and mobile repairs.

Parts Cost: \$17,671.64

Shipping Charges: \$668.85

Shop Supplies Used: \$913.37

Outside Labor: \$3,072.36 (Tire mounting, balancing, and other services)

### **Training / Classed / Other Notable Activities:**

- Attended multiple CTFD trainings as required for ems/fire certifications.
- Attended Pierce Chassis Electrical training seminar.
- Attended Waterous Pump Training class.
- Attended Haldex brake class and received the 49 CFR Section 396.25 "Qualification of Brake Inspectors" certificate
- Obtained EVT Certification for Fire pumps and accessories.
- Obtained EVT Certification for Maintenance, Inspection and Testing of Fire Apparatus.
- Obtained EVT Certification for Design and Performance Standards of Fire Apparatus.
- Acquired ASE Medium/Heavy truck T4 brake Certification
- Acquired ASE Medium/Heavy truck T5 (Suspension and Steering.)
- Achieved EVT Certification of Fire Apparatus Level I in conjunction of the above mentioned Certifications.
- New 18,000# 2 post lift installed and ready for use in new service bay.
- New parking lot/driveway markers placed at Community center/Fire station for snow/Ice mitigation.
- Relocation of Station 5 Plymovent exhaust extractor with Chief Smith's help.
- Installed new exterior water spigot & line was run in Community Center / Fire Admin building.
- Flag pole removal from Station #5 with assistance of Canton Towing & Chris Neisel from the Road Dept.

- Multiple other building maintenance activities were performed throughout the Fire Department and Community Center buildings in 2019.
- Sold 20 different lots on GovDeals with a Net of \$11,046.96

**“In the Office”:**

- New inspection sheets were made for internal shop use and will continue to update as necessary to make inspections and tracking more efficient. Also making any work performed easily tracked and properly documented for NFPA standards.
- Beginning to look at options available for future squad replacement (long term).

**Looking Forward:**

- Looking into future Pierce Mfg. Training opportunities for 2020
- Setting a GOAL for myself to achieve an EVT Level 1 “Ambulance Technician” Certification. This will require passing 2 ASE exams and 2 EVT exams.
- Compiling and prioritizing equipment needs for new Service Bays.




**Preventive Maintenance: Don't start today by doing yesterday's work.**  
~ Deniece Schofield

**“Take care of your equipment and it will take care of you”**



## COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Below is a snapshot of operating expenses for the fire department for 2019. This is not a total listing of expenses just an overview of the standard operating expenses we incur annually.



Wages-	\$1,345,287.00	-5.2% from 2018
Healthcare-	\$347,713.00	35% from 2018 (5 new FTE)
Retirement-	\$210,237.00	2.4% from 2018
Overtime-	\$45,815.00	59% from 2018
Fuel-	\$23,462.00	-14.3% from 2018
Maintenance-	\$23,880.00	-1.1% from 2018
EMS Supplies-	\$32,394.00	-10.7% from 2018
Training-	\$15,522.00	125% from 2018
Dispatching-	\$89,117.00	8% from 2018
EMS Billing-	\$31,275.00	12.6% from 2018
Office Supplies-	\$42,212.00	1.2% from 2018

The Canton Township Fire Department operates from three revenue sources. We have a five-year tax levy at 4.0 mills that generates \$1,530,073.00 annually. The second source is a continuous 4.5 mill tax levy that generates \$1,969,503.00 annually. The third source of revenue is our EMS billing which generates approximately \$500,000 annually. We are continually pursuing grants to help offset costs where we can while also reevaluating our operations to become more efficient. As the above data shows we have been successful in some areas and will continue to improve in others where we can. I would like to thank the community for their continued support of the fire department and allowing us to serve you.

**Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: “A goal without a plan is just a wish.”**