

Madam Mayor, Council, & Mr. Sweet below you will find my in-person report for July's 2021 Council Meeting.

June 2021 we had 49 calls

As far as Auto/Mutual Aid in which we sent out to Aid other county Departments.

We went to the following

Seaside 7 times

Cannon Beach once

Warrenton once

Hamlet 2 times

Right now, we are currently 111 calls ahead of last year at this time. We have 335 calls currently.

Looking ahead for the summer. As a County we hold off on all county wide training. So, there is not as many county wide training opportunities during weekends. Due to the extra load the summer months bring. As a Local Department, it allows us times to be more focused in our trainings. Our Wednesdays are geared more toward outdoor training as we have nicer weather and light longer, so it is safer to complete the training.

We will be focusing on Wildland Fires, Water Rescue, and Rope Rescue. As well as our other continuing education practical training sessions which prepare our firefighters for all the other many aspects for an all-hazards Fire Department such as Gearhart Fire.

Which brings me to some other data. Gearhart Fire Department covers 39 square miles. We currently have 25 volunteers, and we operate out of 2 stations. Just like Warrenton Fire Department has their Hammond station. We have a second station which houses 3 apparatus that was either a hand-me-down from the main station or the district purchased or was purchased of a grant. What that station does is allow a much better response all over our district.

My Firefighters that live out on that end of our district. When we receive a call for service. They respond from their homes to that station get in their gear get in the apparatus and then meet on scene with personnel and apparatus from then main station.

I want to make a quick point and say there is 1 difference between my firefighters here at Gearhart Fire and full time firefighters like Portland Firefighters. That 1 difference is, is how much they get paid. They do not get the career firefighter

wages like Portland firefighters. But they have the exact same certifications. They go through the exact same training as Portland firefighters. What they do for the community beside provide amazing fire and rescue services is, they save the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. Just to run 1 full time staffed engine with 3 firefighters would cost about \$1mil. Per year. You have to have 10 firefighters to run 3-person crew 24 hours on and 48 hours off which leaves 1 extra person for sick time and vacation time.

Due to everything I have just said. Our personnel, their training, the apparatus, and equipment we have has granted our department an ISO class 3/C rating. That is a rating on 1-10 scale, 1 being the best. Because we are a class 3 you save lots of your hard-earned funds on your homeowners insurance.

A quick note on the status of our current station.

Our current station is the oldest in the county. Not to mention we have zero room for training. We must park apparatus outside to keep more expensive apparatus inside. We do not have anything for decontamination. We must wash our SCBA masks in the same sink we prepare our food in. So, all those carcinogens that our volunteers are faced with during structure fires are brought into the kitchen sink. Our lockers that keep our gear are getting contaminated with the exhaust from the apparatus in the station. The machine that fills our air tanks so we can breathe inside a fire is right behind 2 apparatus that spread their exhaust. We do not have room for training indoors our classroom for meeting often has people standing because we cannot fit them all into chairs. There are no showers so we can get cleaned up before our volunteers go home and take all the bad stuff home with them. We all share 1 bathroom. I saw that to say, we have greatly outgrown the limitation of the structure next door.

July 4th. We had 25 calls for service for the day. We did have 2 calls during the parade, Mr. Sweet will go over those when he talks about the parade. They were not caused by the parade. They just happened at the same time. I had apparatus on "tactical patrol" we pushed people out of the dune grass, asked them to not have fires in or too close to the dune grass, we were able to advise multiple groups on safe recreating and give them some aid when they needed it. Because we were staffed, we were able to have a very rapid response when Seaside called us to come help them with an overall size of about 20ft. x 20ft. dune gras fire. A Seaside Firefighter told one of our Firefighters that they were having a hard time with it before we showed up. That fire was able to be extinguished very quickly.

This 4th of July was very successful. Due to the staffing, and the plan we put in place we had we kept any major incident from taking place.

One last note, I saw an email in the correspondence section from Neil Grubb. This email brought up a specific call for service we went on at Pine Ridge. I also, specifically talked about this call during my first council report in May. I had 3 firefighters in 2 vehicles on scene before any fire apparatus arrived. My Duty Officer showed up in a staff vehicle with an additional firefighter. He was setting up the Incident Command Post so we could begin to handle the situation that was unfolding. The 2 additional firefighters where quickly getting geared up and ready to meet the incoming fire apparatus. The Ladder Truck from Seaside which was mentioned did pull in first just second ahead of the Gearhart Engine. It is protocol if we can make it happen to allow the big ladder truck in first so we can get it parked. The email stated he guesses Seaside shows up first to many of our emergencies. There have been 2 calls that I can remember Seaside showing up to first was a car accident that happened in front of our substation out on the highway. They witnessed the accident happen in front of them. So, naturally they would be there before us. They asked dispatch to tone us out, and once we had a handle on the situation, that Seaside Staff vehicle continued on their way while we continued to take care of the car crash. The other time Seaside was first to a Gearhart call for service is when Seaside was covering our station/district while we were having our annual Firefighters Banquet. This email goes on to say he thinks a combined emergency response with Seaside makes sense. There have been conversations with Seaside's Fire Chief as well as the City Manager. They both have said it would take an increase in their budget of \$1mil. Per year to merge. Also, you as a city would be handing over all your equipment to the new "district" and you would be letting go of all those resources. Additionally, Seaside and Gearhart Fire function as 1 team. As I discussed during my May report. It takes on average 25 firefighters and 5 fire apparatus to handle 1 structure fire. So, when one of those calls comes through they take all the resources the local departments have. Which is my we have Automatic Aid agreements with every fire department within our county and the surrounding counties.