

PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Report 2019

2019 marked the official establishment of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. Members of both the Plainfield and Meriden Volunteer Fire Departments worked for nearly two years to draft a plan to merge the two non-profits into the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. The assets of the two departments, station buildings and apparatus, were transferred to the town following the vote at the annual town meeting in March. Bill Taylor was sworn in as the first Chief of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. The vote at the town Meeting also included an appropriation from the town fund balance to pay off the Plainfield Tanker loan.

New self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), was purchased in January for the Meriden side station. The new SCBA replace 15 year old air packs that had reached the end of their useful service life. Each of the 10 new air packs cost approximately \$6,000. A new UTV vehicle was also put into service in 2019. The new vehicle is a 2018 Polaris Ranger XP 1000 side by side with a 70 gallon water tank and a Honda powered high pressure pump. The new UTV also has the capability of transporting injured patients from off road locations. The UTV was used to transport a hiker with a fractured ankle down from French's Ledges shortly after it was put in service in April. A trailer was also purchased to transport the UTV for mutual aid calls outside the Town of Plainfield.

Smokey Bear made an appearance at the Plainfield Fourth of July parade. 2019 marked Smokey's 75th birthday and many Plainfield residents were able to wish him a happy birthday.

The Plainfield Fire Dept hired a company to pressure test all of our hose this year. The company came in June and in less than one full day took all of our hose off of the trucks, pressure tested it, and repacked it on the trucks. Over 11,000 feet of hose was tested. Hose testing is a necessary part of readiness and it was good to get all of our hose tested at once.

Firefighter Tim Dupree successfully completed his Firefighter 1 certification this year. The class was held at the Canaan Fire Station and conducted by the NH Fire Academy. Tim invested over 150 hours in order to become a certified firefighter. Congratulations Tim for a job well done!

Remember that working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are essential to protect your home and family. Test detectors monthly, change the batteries annually, and replace the devices every ten years. Please make sure that your 911 house number is clearly visible from the street so that we can find your house in the event of an emergency.

Thank you to all firefighters and their families for their support of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. throughout the year. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Plainfield firefighter, do not hesitate to give me a call at my home: 469-3342.

2019 Fire Department Run Summary

Motor Vehicle Accident	19	Chimney Fire	02
Structure Fire	00	Car Fire	01
Wildland Fire	01	Alarm Activation	36
CO Alarm	02	Powerline Problem	19
Road Hazard	07	Weather Event	00
Medical	03	Smoke Investigation	04
Mutual Aid Cornish	03	Mutual Aid Lebanon	02
Mutual Aid Ascutney	01	Mutual Aid Claremont	01
Total Runs			103

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief, William S. Taylor Meriden and Plainfield Fire Depts.



The Select Board swearing in Plainfield's first Municipal Fire Chief William Taylor
Photo S. Halleran