



Gregory C. Brett, Chief
Fire & Rescue / Emergency Management

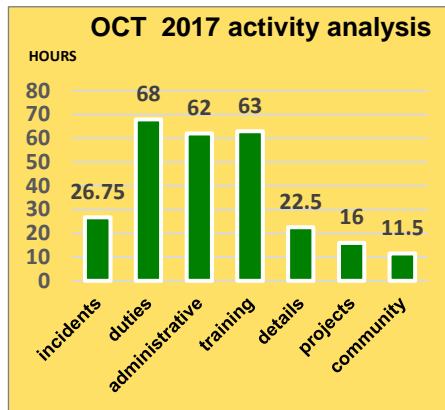
Regular City Council meeting • November 14, 2017

Fire Rescue

Incidents (2017 total incidents to-date: 476)

OCTOBER 2017: 42 incident calls ... 26.75 hours

- **EMS – 29**
 - AMR transports – 16
 - CHFDF transports – 0
 - Patient Refusal - 7
 - POV transports - 0
 - Air/Medivac – 0
 - Deaths – 0
 - Cancellations - 5
 - Other - 1
- **Fire – 5**
 - Structure/residential – 3
 - Structure/commercial – 0
 - Structure/outbuilding – 0
 - Woods/Grass – 0
 - Fire Alarm – 1
 - Smoke investigation – 0
 - Vehicle – 0
 - Sprinkler system – 0
 - Illegal burn - 0
 - Other - 1



- **Service – 4**
 - Trees down - 1
 - Wires down – 0
 - Lockout – 1
 - Invalid Assist – 1
 - Wellness check – 0
 - Water leak – 0
 - Gas leak – 0
 - Public Service – 0
 - Other – 1
- **Vehicle Accidents – 8**
 - Extrication – 0
- **HAZMAT – 0**
- **Rescue/Search – 0**
- **Other - 0**

Fire Operations/Training/Personnel

- Recent structure fire incidents (3 on 3 consecutive days) have proven area departments work very well together. CHFDF, Palmetto and Fairburn handled a fire on Waterworks Road at 4AM on 29OCT in 27°F weather. Units were quickly on-scene and, though the upper portion of the structure was fully involved, the fire was controlled quickly and the entire lower level with contents was



saved.

- CHFDF “Live Fire” training with Newnan Fire Dept went well for three consecutive days. Training environment and evolutions included “above grade” and “below grade” fire suppression drills by four-man teams operating in actual fire and smoke conditions at approximately 700°F or hotter.

- Annual Business Fire Safety Inspections continue with good results. The revised program assists business owners with corrections and recommendations that are beneficial to fire safety and can translate into insurance savings. A unique inspection certificate (pictured right) is provided for public display in each business.



- Shift staffing is currently four persons with two Paramedics and two EMTs each 24-hour shift. All personnel are state-certified firefighters—many have specialized training in areas such as high-angle/technical rescue, HAZMAT, confined space rescue, swift water rescue or other.

Fire Chief's Office - Notables

- South Fulton Fire Chief's met with the GA EMS Region III Council in Marietta on Nov 9 to formally present concerns about AMR's service of south Fulton areas. The Council appointed a Study Committee to report in early December 2017. Following the Study Committee report, all south Fulton Fire Chiefs assisted by Fulton County Emergency Communications are prepared to submit a "Request for Proposal" for the GA EMS to open the zone for new contractor bidding. I (Chief G. Brett) have voiced a preference for AMR to submit a bid, as well. "The yardage we've gained with AMR is an advantage for us, but there must be enforceable standards within a contract (that doesn't exist now) to achieve the level of service due our citizens."
- Considerable concern among Chattahoochee Hills homeowners has arisen during 2016 and 2017 regarding increases in home insurance costs—some annual premiums are reported to have increased by 300% and in a few cases policies have been canceled by insurance companies. The following explanation is provided almost weekly by the Fire Chief to homeowners or insurance agents/underwriters:

Prior to 2016, most home insurance coverage has been based on Fulton County Fire Dept's "protective class rating" of 4/9, however, the national database updated in 2016 and early 2017. As the insurance industry and local agents review records and policies, it was noted fire services are now provided by Chattahoochee Hills Fire Rescue. Likewise, their review showed our city/department has a rating (under new ISO criteria) of 4/4Y (or 4/4W, when located near a fire hydrant).

By example, homeowners living within five miles of the one Chattahoochee Hills fire station or an "automatic aid" partner station (Palmetto, Fairburn) may expect to receive the most savings. However, homeowners (1) residing further than five miles from a Chattahoochee Hills, Palmetto or Fairburn station, and/or (2) not having municipal/hydrant water resources within 1,000 ft will receive an evaluation based on the 9 or 9Y component of our protective class rating.

The Chattahoochee Hills Fire Rescue department operates around the clock daily throughout the year with four state-certified firefighters in-station. Fire response is initiated with fire engines and tankers, as warranted, and simultaneous dispatching of Palmetto and Fairburn units (based on "automatic aid" agreements). NOTE that homes/properties within Chattahoochee Hills AND located near a Fulton County (City of South Fulton) or Coweta fire station will NOT likely receive insurance savings due to those municipalities not having "automatic aid" agreements with the City of Chattahoochee Hills. "Mutual aid" (resources on request) agreements do exist with these departments, but insurance underwriters and ISO do not recognize mutual aid as adequate fire service response.

It is this Fire Chief's recommendation that homeowners experiencing increased insurance costs consider several options including (1) further develop the vision/discussion of additional fire stations at strategic locations within Chattahoochee Hills, and (2) discuss with government leaders of Fulton County/City of South Fulton the need for "automatic aid" agreements. As always, I am available to discuss these matters with insurance representatives.

Chattahoochee Hills Emergency Management Agency (CHEMA)

- EMAIL: CHEMA@chatthillsga.us (rolls into Greg.Brett@chatthillsga.us INBOX)
- CHEMA/EOC PHONE: 678-466-7278 (VOICEMAIL rolls over to Fire Chief's office phone voicemail)
- Planning meetings scheduled with Greystone Power, Georgia Power, GEMA and AFCEMA regarding upcoming winter storm season.
- (New) Grants funds are now available for hazard mitigation issues identified during Hurricane IRMA.
- Awaiting further instructions for finalization of expense recovery (reporting) related to IRMA response.