



# WEST MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

380 East Berlin Road, York, PA 17408  
(717) 792-3505 \* [www.wmtfd.org](http://www.wmtfd.org)

Clifton Laughman  
Township Fire Chief

David Markle  
Deputy Chief

Roy Gentzler  
District Chief

Robert Sells  
District Chief

*“Preparing for the Future, while preserving the past.”*

**TO:** West Manchester Township Board of Supervisors  
Kelly Kelch, Township Manager

**FROM:** Clifton Laughman, Fire Chief

**DATE:** June 16, 2022

**SUBJECT:** May 2022 Monthly Report

As I start year seven (7) as the Chief of the WMTFD, I can't help but look back on the past seven years and see how the department has grown by leaps and bounds because of the fantastic members, officers, and support we have.

With the start of new year in the position comes the start of our next 5-year strategic plan. The 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the West Manchester Township Fire Department strategic plan will carry us through 2026. This plan will cover topics like Personnel & Staffing, Firefighter Health, Technology, Facilities, Funding, Apparatus Replacement, and much more. I will provide a little more of an in-depth review of the plan during the Board Meeting, however I encourage everyone to start reviewing it now as it will be placed on the July agenda for approval and adoption.

Please find below the May report for the June West Manchester Township Board of Supervisors meeting.

## **TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY RESPONSES**

Type of Response	Total	Percentage	YTD
Fire	8	7.21%	53
Over Pressure, Rupture, Explosion	0	0.00%	0
Rescue & Emergency Medical	29	26.13%	158
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	14	12.61%	39
Service Call	24	21.62%	60
Good Intent Call	17	15.32%	81
False Alarm & False Call	16	14.41%	80
Severe Weather	1	0.90%	1
Special Incidents	2	1.80%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>476</b>

- There was a total of 517 personnel that responded on the incidents with an average of 6 per incident. (Average does not include Duty Officer & Fire Police Only Calls). This is a 14.29% decrease from last month.
- Year to date, a total 3,050 personnel responded on the incidents with an average of 8 per incident. This is a 0.00% increase from this time last year.
- We are at a 18.11% increase in call volume from last year.

### **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

During last months report I mentioned that I attended the PA Career Chief's Spring Conference in Erie Pennsylvania and that we discussed a number of legislative bills that were making their way through committees and or the House and Senate. I wanted to provide an update on some additional movement from those bills.

#### **Some new Bills and Co-Sponsored Memos:**

- **Sales Tax Exemption- HB 2597** was introduced by Representative B. Markosek's (D-Allegheny). The bill proposes a sales tax exemption to firefighters who are purchasing firefighting equipment with their own money. This bill was introduced and sent to the House Finance committee for consideration.
- **Fire Relief Fix**-Senator Pat Stefano (R-Fayette) plans to introduce legislation that will help ensure that a steady amount of funds are going to Fire Relief. The yet to be introduced legislation proposes to place all Insurance Premium Taxes into the General Fund and then transferring a fixed percentage with a baseline floor amount of the total revenue to the Fire Relief Fund and the Municipal Pension Aid Fund. The purpose of doing this would be so that the Fire Relief and Municipal Pension Funds get a specific and consistent funding amount each fiscal year.

#### **Junior Firefighter Bill:**

There are two "companion" pieces of legislation moving through the state legislature on this issue. SB 1027 by Senator Pat Stefano (R-Fayette) and HB 2268 by Representative Torren Ecker (R-Adams). They both have identical language at this point and through the month of June have moved quickly through the legislative process with the full Senate sending SB 1027 to the House and the House sending HB 2268 to the Senate. Both bills propose that a 17-year-old junior firefighter be allowed to complete the Interior Firefighting Module with Live Burns training program in the Fire Training System. Currently, only people age 18 and over are allowed to enroll in the training program. In order to take the additional training at 17, junior firefighters would need to have the permission of their parents and fire chief. The goal here is that when a junior firefighter turns 18 years old, they would immediately be able to serve as a full-fledged firefighter.

## Fireworks Reform:

Representative Frank Farry (R- Bucks) introduced HB 2157 which proposes to scale back the fireworks law that was passed in 2017. This month, HB 2157 was passed by the full House of Representatives, 160-38. Among many provisions, HB 2157 would extend the distance to 150 feet from buildings and vehicles where fireworks could be used, prohibit usage between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m. except during the July 4 holiday and New Year's Eve and give municipalities the option to ban their usage most of the year, except for Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. The legislation also increases penalties and provides up to \$2 million of collected tax to be transferred for EMS grants and online volunteer firefighter training programs. The bill was sent to the Senate where it was referred to the Senate Agriculture and Rural

## RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

There were no new members brought into membership during the May General Membership Meeting.

Our Marketing firm has completed two (2) 30 second clips that will be used on different social media outlets for the purposes of recruiting new firefighters and administrative members. Please continue to watch the departments social media platforms for these videos.

<https://youtu.be/L3GZRD-8Zyo>

<https://youtu.be/TxsllswW-Oc>

They have also completed a new brochure to promote our Live-In Program. We are excited to start really promoting the program this summer just in time for college students heading off to college in the fall.

**BENEFITS OF THE LIVE-IN PROGRAM**

- Lifelong friendships
- Organization, leadership, and communication skills
- Looks great on resumes
- Unique opportunity to serve your community while being educated

**AMENITIES INCLUDED!**

West Manchester Township's fire stations are equipped with four comfortable male & female dormitories that include:

- Full kitchens
- Free laundry
- Free fitness center

In between calls, you and your new roommates can keep yourselves entertained with pool tables, TVs with external gaming set-ups, free WiFi, free Netflix, as well as free Xfinity On Demand.

**WEST MANCHESTER PRIDE. WEST MANCHESTER PURPOSE. Is it in YOU?**

West Manchester Fire Department  
2190 Carlisle Road  
York, PA 17408

**SAVE MONEY AND LIVES JOIN WEST MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT'S LIVE-IN PROGRAM!**

Learn more at  
**WESTMANCHESTERFIREFIGHTER.ORG**

ABOUT THE LIVE-IN PROGRAM	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	NEARBY SCHOOLS
<p>West Manchester Township Fire Department's Live-In Program offers active firefighters an opportunity to have free housing provided by the department in exchange for their time serving as a volunteer. The program is perfect for college students with prior firefighting/EMS experience and are attending school in the York area.</p>	<p><b>To be eligible for the Live-In program volunteers must:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have their Firefighter I certification</li> <li>• Be age 18 or older, <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Work a minimum of 20 hours per week <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Be a full-time college student</li> </ul>	<p>West Manchester Fire Department's Live-In program is best suited for students looking to attend or are already attending one of our local colleges and universities. We are a convenient drive to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• York College of Pennsylvania - 12 Minutes</li> <li>• Penn State's York Campus - 20 Minutes</li> <li>• Harrisburg Area Community College, York Campus - 10 Minutes</li> <li>• Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg Campus - 40 Minutes</li> </ul>
	<p><b>INTERESTED IN APPLYING?</b></p> <p>If you would like to sign up for the West Manchester Township Fire Department's Live-In program visit the volunteer/contact us page at <a href="http://WESTMANCHESTERFIREFIGHTER.ORG">WESTMANCHESTERFIREFIGHTER.ORG</a> to fill out an inquiry form and begin the process of becoming a Live-In with us!</p>	<p><i>"As a live-in, you will be the first to respond to a fire. It's a great way to serve the community while living rent free!"</i> - AJ Vail, Live-In Firefighter</p>
<p>Members of our Live-In program are expected to respond to fire calls when available as well as attend necessary meetings, trainings, public education events, and fundraisers when called upon.</p>		 <p>Learn more at <a href="http://WESTMANCHESTERFIREFIGHTER.ORG">WESTMANCHESTERFIREFIGHTER.ORG</a></p>
 <p><i>"If you love firefighting, being a live-in and the first to arrive on the scene will make you love it even more."</i> - Logan Love, Former HACCC student &amp; Live-In Firefighter HACCC graduate</p>		

## **VIOLATIONS**

There was one (1) violation for illegal burning sent during the month of May:

- May 5, 2022 – 2530 Audlyn Drive – Anita Spanakis - Warning issued for burning of Yard Waste

There were nine (9) violations for false fire alarms during the month of May:

- May 1, 2022 – 1900 Barley Rd – Manchester Heights – 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- May 2, 2022 – 2740 Roosevelt Ave – Calvary Baptist Church – 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- May 6, 2022 – 1287 Carlisle Rd – Citizens Bank – 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- May 9, 2022 – 1703 Innovation Drive – UPMC Memorial – 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- May 10, 2022 – 1700 Normandie Drive – Normandie Ridge – 2<sup>nd</sup> Warning
- May 25, 2022 – 1900 Trolley Rd – Country Meadows – 2<sup>nd</sup> Warning
- May 29, 2022 – 1900 Trolley Rd – Country Meadows - 1<sup>st</sup> Violation
- May 29, 2022 – 1900 Trolley Rd – Country Meadows – 2<sup>nd</sup> Violation

## **COMMUNITY RISK & REDUCTION**

There was a total of six (6) Community Risk & Reduction events for the month of May.

- May 11, 2022 – Fire Extinguisher Training for West Manchester Township Staff
- May 12, 2022 – Fire Extinguisher Training for West York High School Seniors Life Skills classes.
- May 13, 2022 – West York High School Fun Day
- May 14, 2022 – York Valley Canvas Open House
- May 17, 2022 – Shiloh UCC Fun Day
- May 27, 2022 – BAE Amphibious Vehicle Testing

## **MAINTENANCE**

The following maintenance was performed during the month of May:

- May 26, 2022 – Annual NFPA Hose Testing completed on all fire hose.