



## STAFF REPORT

DATE:  
CONSENT  
ITEM #:

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Mike Cornell, Interim Fire Chief

**AGENDA ITEM:** Month End Fire Department Update for April 2020

**REVIEWED BY:** Kristina Handt, City Administrator

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**ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:** Review month end activity update from fire department. Advise on any additional information requested.

**PROPOSAL DETAILS/ANALYSIS:**

We had 54 calls in April:

- 28 Medicals
  - 1 Structure Fire
  - 2 Car Accidents with injuries
  - 11 Dispatched and cancelled en route
  - 2 Fire Alarms
  - 3 Grass Fires
  - 2 Gas Leak
  - 1 Car Fire
  - 1 Kitchen Fire
  - 3 Misc
- 54 Total

A Command vehicle did not respond on 26 calls for a response rate of 48%. Our average response time was 9.4 minutes from alarm to arrival. 25 calls had 3 or less responders minus the Duty Officer with 1 call having only 1 personnel on the first due apparatus. 11 calls this month had only shift personnel for responders.

**Drills for the Month:**

For the past 2 months we have canceled our inhouse drills to comply with the Govonors "Stay at Home Order" and promote the social distancing. While we were not meeting at the station, we did replace them with weekly video conference meetings for updates and to stay connected. Now that the Govonor has lifted the "Stay at Home Order" we are preparing to continue in-house drills but still maintaining minimum staff - 10 members or less and still practicing all recomendations. As the summer progresses we will continue to evolve our trainings while still making sure our staff is safe.

### **Points of Interest:**

- This was a five year high in call volume for the month of April. We nearly doubled the calls for the same time last year.
- On April 25<sup>th</sup>, we took in face masks to be dispersed to congregate living facilities residents and employees. Residents donated hundreds of masks and one resident donated 18 home made blankets. All of the masks were given to Washington County to be dispersed to the places of need and the blankets went to a local outreach center. Thank You to the Lake Elmo Community.
- The department continues to operate to the best of our ability through this national crisis. All non-essential personnel and visitors are asked to refrain from being in the fire stations until further notice in an effort to keep our members as safe as possible so that we can serve the community.

### **Part Timer Accomplishments:**

- Cleaning and general maintenance at both stations.
- Vehicle and equipment inspections.
- Hydrant mapping and GIS tagging.
- Assisted with Burn Permit applications.
- Vehicle repairs as possible.
- Increased decontamination of apparatus and stations.

### **Message From Chief:**

During the last couple months a group of Firefighters have been participating in “Birthday Parades” when we are not on an emergency call. These members have voluntarily (no pay) signed up and have brighten the special day for many. Currently for the month of April we have gone to 16 of these events and are currently at 15 events for the month of May. At this point we will run parades for those that request them until June 1<sup>st</sup>, and at that time we will reevaluate. For the members that signed up, Thank You!!! For more information please visit the Lake Elmo Fire Department Facebook page.