

## Hopkins Area

200 E. Main  
P.O. Box 124  
Hopkins, MI 49328



## Fire Department

Phone: 269-793-1000  
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1 September 2015

For the month of August, we responded to 11 fire incidents; 4 assists to another department, 3 PI accidents, 1 vehicle fire, and 3 smoke investigations. The PI accidents and 2 smoke investigations were in Hopkins Township, the car fire and other smoke investigation were in Monterey Township, with no calls in Hopkins Village, or Watson Township. Hopkins first responders responded to 32 medical calls; 4 in Hopkins Village, 14 in Hopkins Township, 9 in Watson Township, and 5 in Monterey Township.

We had two regular training meetings this last month. The training subjects were basic skills (pumper operations) and extrication. Training sessions lasted about 2 ½ hours and were attended by 12 firefighters.

We have extended offers to become firefighters to Ben Bregg and Brandon Wardell. Both of these young men live in the village. Ben will be responding to afternoon evening calls and Brandon will be a daytime responder. Mentoring of these new guys is proceeding well and they both have been to their first incident albeit in a training role.

Brandon starts an MFR/EMT class soon in Hamilton. This class runs through November. Josh Cole and Eric Alberda will be attending the EMT class in Wayland. This class starts soon and runs through January.

Chad took the written test June 6<sup>th</sup> in White Pigeon. The next available practical test date is in September but he is being sent to a NCO academy during September. I will start looking again. Vince Castaneda has joined the National Guard and will be leaving in January for Basic Training and AIT. Already being certified as a paramedic gets him an advanced rank and shortens his AIT by half.

The other officers and I did a walk through at the Sebright Products office in Hopkins this month. This helps us with a preplan of this property and knowing what areas of the facility are most critical for protection.

Bob Kerber continues researching the replacement truck. Bob has just gotten a quote from HME that is in-line with his estimate to the board. We will be getting this to the board soon.

Returning from the last training Engine 11 experienced a blowout of the left front tire. Kyle Fuss was driving and managed to bring the engine to a safe stop. We had the engine towed back to Hopkins and a tire company came out the next day and changed out the tire. Josh and Brandon worked on reforming the inner fender which was damaged by

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the tire. I looks almost as good as new. We also replaced the other steer tire as a precaution as these tires were original on this truck. We are going to budget to have the steer tires replaced on tender 41 and possibly Engine 10 next year. While the rear tires are all aged as well they do not show obvious signs of deterioration and as they are duels a tire failure is not as critical.

Furnace replacement in the truck bay, at the Hopkins Station is scheduled for 1 September.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim McKinnon  
Fire Chief