



CITY OF ROME and FLOYD COUNTY GEORGIA



FIRE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE August 27, 2021 8:30 a.m. Fire Training Center

Rome/Floyd County Fire Overview Committee met at 8:30AM on Friday, August 27, 2021 at the Fire Training Center.

Members present:

Wright Baby, County Commissioner - Chairman
Scotty Hancock, County Commissioner
Jamie McCord, County Manager
Troy Brock, Fire Chief
Brad Roberson, Division Chief
Clete Bonney, Division Chief
Mary Catherine Chewning, Fire Marshal

Jim Bojo, City Commissioner
Sammy Rich, City Manager
Meredith Ulmer, Assistant City Manager
Curt Pierson, Deputy Fire Chief
John Blalock, Public Safety Division Director
Jamie Stone, Training Chief
Doug Walker, Public Information Officer

Commissioner Wright Bagby, Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:17AM. The meeting followed the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new burn building at the fire training center. Minutes of the May 2021 meeting were approved by common consent.

- I. **Financial Statements** - Finance Director Toni Rhinehart was not present. No financials were discussed.
- II. **Fire Chief Report**
 - A. **June & July**– Fire Marshal Mary Catherine Chewning reported June was a busy month with a total run of 557, compared to July which had 585 calls for the month. Fire Marshal Chewning said that the City had 276 calls in June and 337 in July; the County had 280 in June and 248 in July. Education reached 32,411 residents in June versus 43,710 in July. Inspections totaled 114 for the month of June, and increased to 133 for July. Consultations have increased due to new businesses coming to Rome, totaling 9 for June and 4 for July.
 - B. **Operations** – Division Chief Roberson reported that we participated in training activities in the old Georgia Power building. We currently have plans to do a three-day training/tour event with International Paper. We participated in RIT training. Chief Roberson stated that the muting of radios at night was working very well. We are partnered with Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR), which is a group of fire departments working together when resources are needed in neighboring counties. We will deploy our GSAR team when needed. We recently made 4 GSAR deployments.
 - C. **Manpower** – Division Chief Roberson stated the Corporal and Sergeant assessments will start in October. We are in the pre-stages of hiring for next year. Looking to hire 10 new firefighters. Class will consist of certified and noncertified applicants. Chief Brock reported that we are currently 3 short. We will begin hiring 6 of the 9 needed to improve our ISO rating at the first of the year. We will add one more due to the upcoming retirement of Deputy Chief Curt Pierson.
 - D. **Knox Box Ordinance** – Fire Marshal Mary Catherine Chewning introduced the Knox Box Ordinance. The Knox Box

program started two years ago. This would give firefighters a way into structures without the key holder present. Ordinance states that all new construction with a fire protection system shall have a Knox Box/Lockbox System installed. For existing structures with a fire protection system, we are hoping for voluntary compliance. Listed are four examples of existing structures that must obtain a Knox Box. (Change of ownership, renovations/remodeling, 3rd false alarm or subsequent incident requiring the fire department, and refusal of notified keyholder via E-911 or alarm system.) Chairman Bagby made a motion to approve. Commissioner Bojo seconded. Motion PASSED.

- E. **Support** – Chief Brock reported that we have two new trucks ordered. The tanker will arrive in December 2021, the Engine will arrive in January 2022.

- F. **Station 1** – Chief Brock stated that a new station would cost around 3-5 million dollars. Bagby mention that we should go ahead and pick out the location and acquire the land. We will look into adding an additional station once the Lindale bypass is complete. This would help with ISO ratings. Chief Bonney is working to collect quotes to remodel station 1. Work needed will include interior cabinets, plumbing issues, leaking windows, and wall damage. Estimated cost to remodel station 1 is \$100,000.00-\$110,000.00.

Adjourned 10:00AM

Respectfully Submitted,



Shana Williamson
Operations Coordinator