# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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# LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

### **Strategic Highlights**

To ensure that we provided the best possible coverage, Duty Shift Weekends were reintroduced in July 2022. This ensures we have a squad of staff members available to respond to calls during this time. These squads are also responsible for performing checks on vital equipment and apparatus each weekend. Work also started on revamping the capital fund plan and budget to better position and plan for the future.

#### **Financial Highlights**

While many large financial purchases and changes happened during 2022, the department was able to work with the budget provided, using funds from its savings fund balance to offset any difference. Following a payroll study of area departments, we increased hourly wages by an average of 12% and officer stipends by 5%. This makes our department competitive with others in the area. We thank our citizens and municipalities for their continued support and funding.

### **Operating Highlights**

In October, we completed our ISO Public Protection Classification review. I am happy to report that we maintained our 5/5Y rating. We will be reviewing the areas we can improve upon and work toward bettering this rating in the future. We revamped our Sergeant positions to foster future leaders within our department. These positions work closely with our command officers while learning and completing the necessary certifications to hold higher positions in the future.

#### Looking Ahead

Looking forward to 2023, our department looks to continue its dedicated response to our community. We hope to transition to a Basic Life Support – Non-Transport agency by the end of the year, providing a higher level of medical response to our community. We continue to improve our training and advance our skills in order to protect, serve and respond to emergencies in the City of Coopersville and Polkton Township.

### Overview

Like many other parts of 2022, the department's apparatus saw significant changes. Many of these changes occurred after reviewing department response patterns and how the apparatus were being utilized, and not utilized. This led to the addition of equipment to some apparatus and the complete removal of some apparatus from the fleet.

### **Replacement of Ladder 441**

The 1996 HME Tele-Squirt was due for replacement on the department's capital plan. Due to the cost of new aerial ladder trucks starting at around \$1 million dollars, it was obvious the department's capital savings of \$500,000 would not be able to make this purchase. After much research, the department was able to secure a used, but great condition 2010 E-One 78' Aerial. After purchasing, refurbishing, and equipping this truck, the department spent just over \$291,000, significantly less than the original amount.

### Sale of 431

While reviewing department response, it was noted that Rescue 431 was primarily being used for medical calls, along with some fire and vehicle accidents, which averaged about 77 calls per year. By equipping our main Fire Engine, 421, with medical equipment and extrication tools, and additional apparatus improvements, it was noticed there was limited to no use for this unit. The department was able to begin the sale of this apparatus in November 2022 (completed in January 2023) for the sum of \$85,000. These funds, minus brokerage fees, were added back into the capital improvement fund.

### Addition of Squad 472

As medical calls account for over 80% of the department's call response, it was determined that the addition of a second squad would make the most fiscal and logistical sense for the department and its community. In June 2022, the department was able to secure a used 2017 Ford Explorer for Wright-Tallmadge Fire Department. This unit was placed into service after updating and outfitting at the cost of just over \$27,000.



### Engine 421

2018 Toyne/Spartan 1,000 Gallon Tank 1,500 GPM Pump

### Ladder 441

2010 E-One 500 Gallon Tank 1,500 GPM Pump 78' Ladder





### Tanker 461

2009 OSCO 3,000 Gallon Tank 500 GPM Pump

### **Brush Truck 481**

2015 Ford F-350 250 Gallon Tank 5 Gallon Foam Cell 120 GPM Pump





Squad 471 2019 Ford Explorer

### Squad 472 2017 Ford Explorer



## TRAINING



## TRAINING

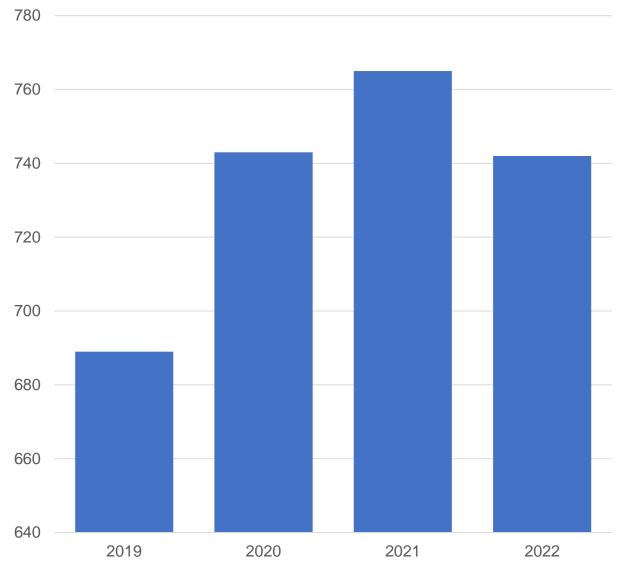
During 2022, our department worked to increase the intensity and excitement of our training to continue to improve our skills and provide the best service possible. The training involved working with ladders, hose streams, physical agility, medical assessments, and more.

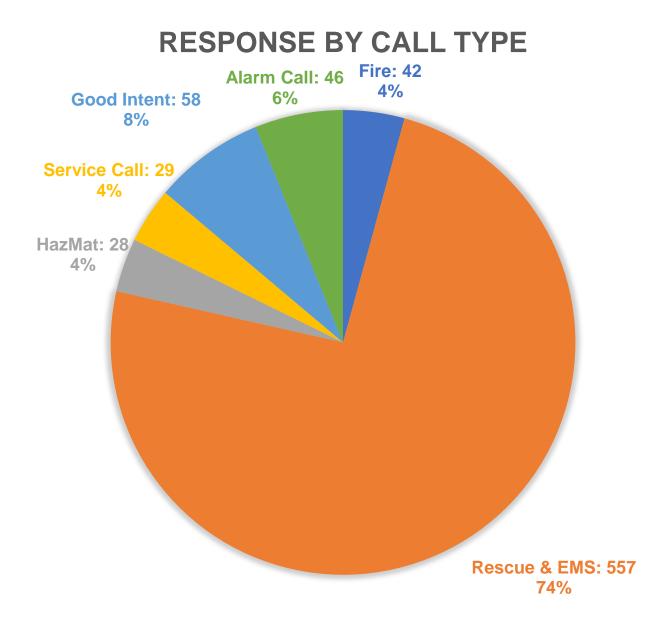
We had four firefighters successfully complete an Emergency Medical Responder program making them licensed healthcare providers.

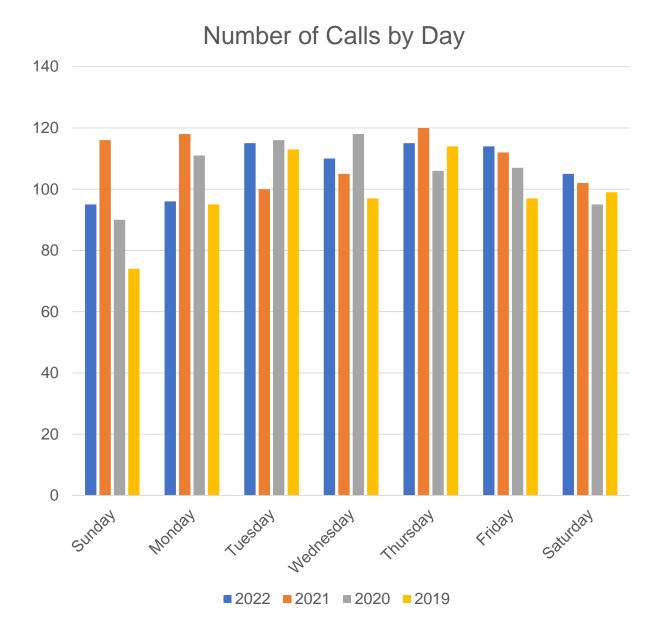
Additionally, three candidates are in the Ottawa County Fire Academy and four Firefighters are taking an EMR to EMT matriculation course in Allendale during 2023.



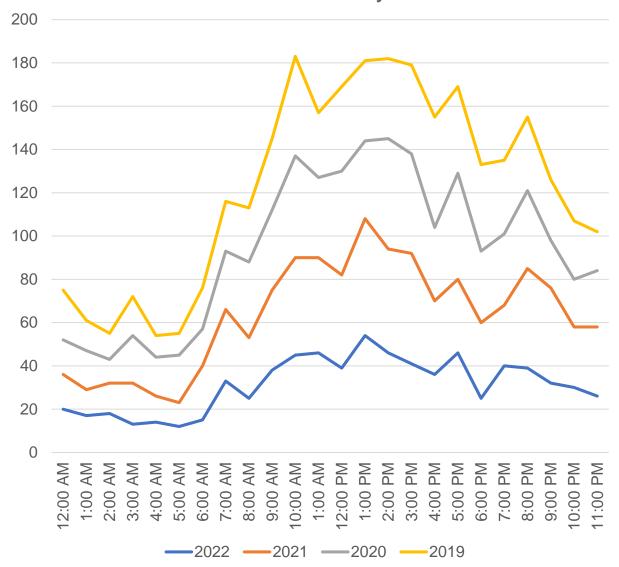








Number of Calls by Hour



Our department was happy to take part in multiple community events throughout 2022. Expanding our outreach and interacting with the community is important to all.



## **Ravenna Church Fire – April 2, 2022**



## **Schools Visits**



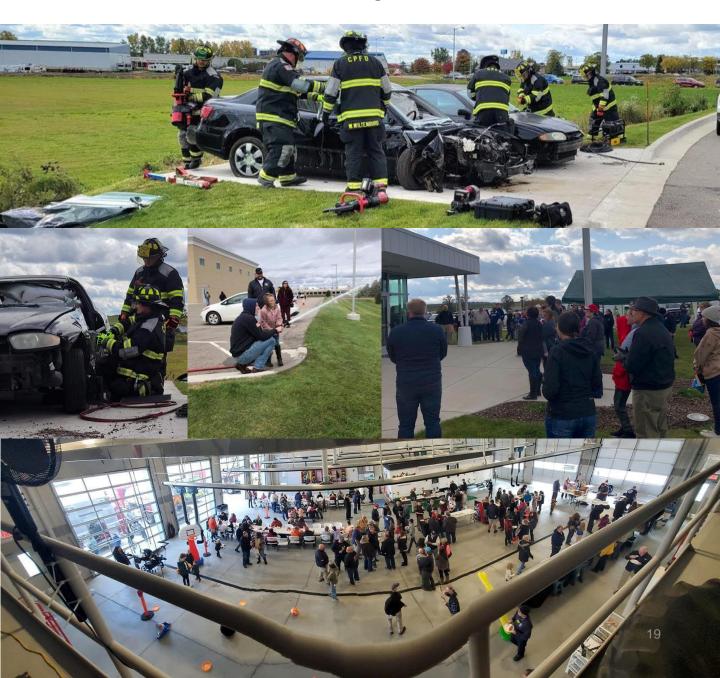
## **Community Water Ball Event**



## **Trunk or Treat/Toys for Tots**



## **Station Dedication/Open House**



**Firefighter of the Year:** Wade Wiltenburg

## Medical Responder of the Year: Andrew Kooyer





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