

TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



New Tender at Station 3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Douglas Kranig, President	Town of Seymour
Micheal Peterson, Vice President	Town of Washington
Jennifer Meyer	Town of Union
Dan Hanson, Secretary/Treasurer	Town of Pleasant Valley
Kevin Nelson	Town of Brunswick

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Jack Running Chief
Kerry Parker Assistant Chief
Joe Alf Chief of Rescue & Special Rescue
Darrell Christy Division Chief of Operations, Inspections & Investigations
Nate Murphy Division Chief of Training & Safety
Dave Griep Captain of Training & Safety
Ben Nemitz Captain of Training & Safety
Chris Turner Captain of Special Rescue
John Oxley Captain of Emergicare
Jeff Olson Public Information Officer

TFD DISPATCH OFFICE

715-834-6868

Ron Patraz Dispatcher
Lisa Peterson Office Manager

EMERGENCY PHONE - 715-834-1253

This number is for EMERGENCY CALLS only, 24 hours/day.

OUR STATIONS

The Township Fire Department is one department made up of five fire stations that work together to provide emergency services to the Towns of Seymour, Washington, Union, Pleasant Valley and Brunswick in Eau Claire County. Our stations work together and support each other on a daily basis to provide professional, dependable service to our entire coverage area.

SEYMOUR – Station 1

The Seymour Station is comprised of 21 firefighters and 7 Emergicare members (who respond to medical calls).

The station consists of 7 pieces of equipment including an Engine, Tender, Squad, Brush Truck, ATV, Special Rescue Trailer and Boat. In addition to responding to a variety of emergencies, our station also responds to all water related incidents in Eau Claire County. If requested, we also respond in the City of Eau Claire.

Our members train monthly on various topics and have over 200 years of combined experience among us.

We are a well-trained, well-equipped department ready to respond to any emergency.
Randy Shenk, Battalion Chief

STATION 1 OFFICERS AND TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

Randy Schenk	Battalion Chief
Mike Rudd	Captain
Matt Reas	Lieutenant
Cody Davey	Lieutenant
Daniel Ravenhorst	Lead Training/Safety Instructor
Tom Wagner.	Assistant Training/Safety Instructor

WASHINGTON – Station 2

The Township Fire Department - Washington Station has a current roster of 14 members. All of our members are highly trained and excited to serve the residents of the Town of Washington and surrounding towns. Our members are always eager to participate in training and gain additional knowledge to keep up with the current trends and practices of the fire service.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were unable to have our annual chicken feed in 2020. Instead, we sent out a letter seeking donations. We had an overwhelming response to our appeal. With the donated funds, we were able to purchase a battery-powered spreader and a battery-powered cutter. These pieces of equipment are used to extricate patients from vehicles and other areas where they may be trapped. Thank you so much for your continued support.

We are always in need of more volunteer firefighters. Per the Town of Washington population, only .002% are volunteering to serve the community. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact our dispatch center so we can discuss how you can be a part of an extraordinary team of dedicated volunteers. You may also get information from our website at www.townshipfire.org – Aaron Nicholson, Battalion Chief

STATION 2 OFFICERS AND TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

Aaron Nicholson	Battalion Chief
Jim Gutsch	Lieutenant
Sarah Larson	Lieutenant
Jared Rico	Lead Training/Safety Instructor
Brian Taylor	Assistant Training/Safety Instructor

UNION – Station 3

Township Fire Department – Union Station currently has approximately 30 firefighters on our roster. Wow, what an unusual year it has been. We learned how to hold virtual meetings and training sessions. The music festivals, which typically provide the bulk of our fundraising opportunities each year, were cancelled. However, we are still collecting aluminum cans to help raise funds.

All things considered, we had excellent responses from our firefighters to the over 370 runs that the 5 stations of the department responded to in 2020. Our community is fortunate to have such a great group of people ready to respond day or night to help their neighbors in need.

We are extremely excited about our new 3500-gallon tender (cover photo) which was added to our fleet in December. This vehicle was ordered in 2019 and replaced a tender that was over 20 years old.

Thank you for your continued support. Dave Kleist, Battalion Chief

STATION 3 OFFICERS AND TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

Dave Kleist	Battalion Chief
Frank (Eddie) Yates	Captain
Darin Kinstler	Lieutenant
Paul Travis	Lieutenant
Tim Deziel	Lead Training/Safety Instructor
Jeff Witt	Assistant Training/Safety Instructor

PLEASANT VALLEY – Station 4

Pleasant Valley, Station 4, wishes to congratulate Battalion Chief Mark Behlke on his retirement after 41 years of dedicated service to the Township Fire Department. Station 4 is forever grateful for Mark's leadership and the culture he created at the Station. John Norby has taken over for Mark as Battalion Chief and is maintaining the great culture and leading the active roster of 20 members.

The Station has transitioned to 'Blue Jeans' for virtual meetings and training and continues to be proud of its high participation in such events. With that being said, the crew can't wait until in-person gatherings resume and we can get back to enjoying the camaraderie of our volunteers and taking turns providing meals at meetings!

Station 4 is currently in the middle of purchasing a drone/Small Unmanned Aircraft System(sUAS). With the continued challenges of recruiting volunteers, the drone will make an invaluable impact on both safety and response efficiency. Drones have proven to be useful in many situations in the Fire Service including search and rescue, hazardous material recognition, scene size-ups, wildland fires, neighborhood pre-planning, storm damage assessment, and fire investigations. The Department is extremely grateful for the generosity of local residents and the businesses that are making this possible.

Even with Covid, Station 4 again put together a successful softball season. There's a lot of excitement around this year's team as the station has a couple new members that can swing a bat and still run the bases!

STATION 4 OFFICERS AND TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

John Norby	Battalion Chief
Scott Iverson	Lieutenant
Tim Johnson	Lieutenant
Mike Stage	Lead Training/Safety Instructor
Trent Johnson	Assistant Training/Safety Instructor

BRUNSWICK – Station 5

Brunswick, Station 5, is proud of the hard work and professionalism of our firefighters during a difficult year. Thank you to our residents for your continued support. – Kevin Nelson, Battalion Chief

STATION 5 OFFICERS AND TRAINING INSTRUCTORS

Kevin Nelson	Battalion Chief
Dave Vlcek	Captain
Jeremy Vlcek	Lieutenant
Brian Jorgenson	Lieutenant & Lead Training/Safety Instructor
Rick Merryfield	Assistant Training/Safety Instructor

DISPATCH REPORT

	2019	2020
Total Number of Incident Responses	395	370
Rock Creek Calls Dispatched	33	30
Burning Permits Issued	3,252	3,653
Calls Dispatched from Eau Claire County 911	337	319
Percentage of Calls Dispatched by Eau Claire County 911	86%	86%

Permits are available through our website, www.townshipfire.org. A complete explanation of burning rules and regulations is also available online.

Our Dispatch Office is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for **emergencies**.

Are you interested in working as an occasional Relief Dispatcher for a few hours a month? If you have a strong, clear voice and stay calm under pressure, please contact our Dispatch Office to learn more.

INSPECTION REPORT

All fire departments in the State of Wisconsin were given an inspection exemption due to the pandemic, so we did not conduct any physical inspections in 2020. Instead, TFD inspectors decided to implement a self-inspection form which business owners were asked to complete on their own and return to the Department. This form consisted of basic fire prevention inspection questions. A total of 442 locations were sent these forms with 228 completed forms returned to date. We were pleased with the success of this project. Currently, all inspections are on hold until April 1, 2021.

Township Fire Department Inspections Staff includes Inspector Jeff Meyer, Inspector Jason Knecht, Inspector Tim Diezel, and Division Chief of Operations, Inspections & Investigation, Darrell Christy. Our thanks go out to former Inspector Dennis Bauer and we wish him well in his retirement.

ACTIVE MEMBERS

In 2020 there were 117 Active Members of the Township Fire Department. The membership breakdown is as follows. Many of our members are trained in more than one area. In addition to our Firefighter and Emergicare members, we have 2 members who only participate in Dive Rescue activities.

2020 Volunteer Firefighter Members	62
2020 Emergicare Members	19
2020 Firefighter AND Emergicare Members	34

EMERGICARE ACTIVITY

The Emergicare Division of the Township Fire Department is directed by Chief of Rescue Services, Joe Alf, and Captain of Emergicare, John Oxley. Emergicare was dispatched to 881 EMS calls in 2020. The calls were distributed as follows:

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF CALLS</u>
Seymour	135
Washington	355
Union	164
Pleasant Valley	74
Brunswick	82
Mutual Aid Jurisdictions	71

SPECIAL RESCUE ACTIVITY

Captain of Special Rescue, Chris Turner, leads the Special Rescue Division of the Township Fire Department. Special Rescue responded to 8 water related incidents in 2020. Special Rescue members completed the following training: Recognizing Drowning Victims with Sonar, Ice Diver, Full Face Mask Diving, Sonar Search Practice, Dive Team.

HONOR GUARD

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Sarah Larson to the position of Deputy Commander for our Honor Guard. Sarah was the recipient of the 2019 Honor Guard member of the year. She is also a very active and competent Firefighter at Station 2 (Town of Washington).

The Honor Guard is grateful for the receipt of a \$5,000 donation from a family in our community in memory of their son. These funds will help pay for equipment and expenses incurred by our members as they travel to funerals, memorials and dedications across the State of Wisconsin.

We greatly appreciate the authorization to use the new Support 9 vehicle to travel to some Honor Guard functions. Previously, members used their own vehicles rather than a department vehicle to participate in processions and other official functions.

TRAINING & SAFETY REPORT

A note from Division Chief of Training & Safety, Nate Murphy:

Well, to say the least, I am glad that 2020 is over. It was a year with uncertainty of what would come next. With Covid hitting us early in the year, training was much more difficult.

We had planned to improve training in 2020 by having multiple stations train together rather than each station training on their own. Obviously, with the gathering limits, that was not what happened. TFD training staff and members had to quickly adapt to the new challenge of online and virtual training. Considering the unusual circumstances, things went very well. With board approval, we invested in Target Solutions, a new online training program. This allows all members to receive the same training with the flexibility to train on their own time. Captains of Training & Safety Ben Nimitz and Dave Griep worked very hard to get the program up and running and to train the staff on its use.

We are looking forward to 2021 and hope to have a great year.

Injury/Accident Report Past Three Years

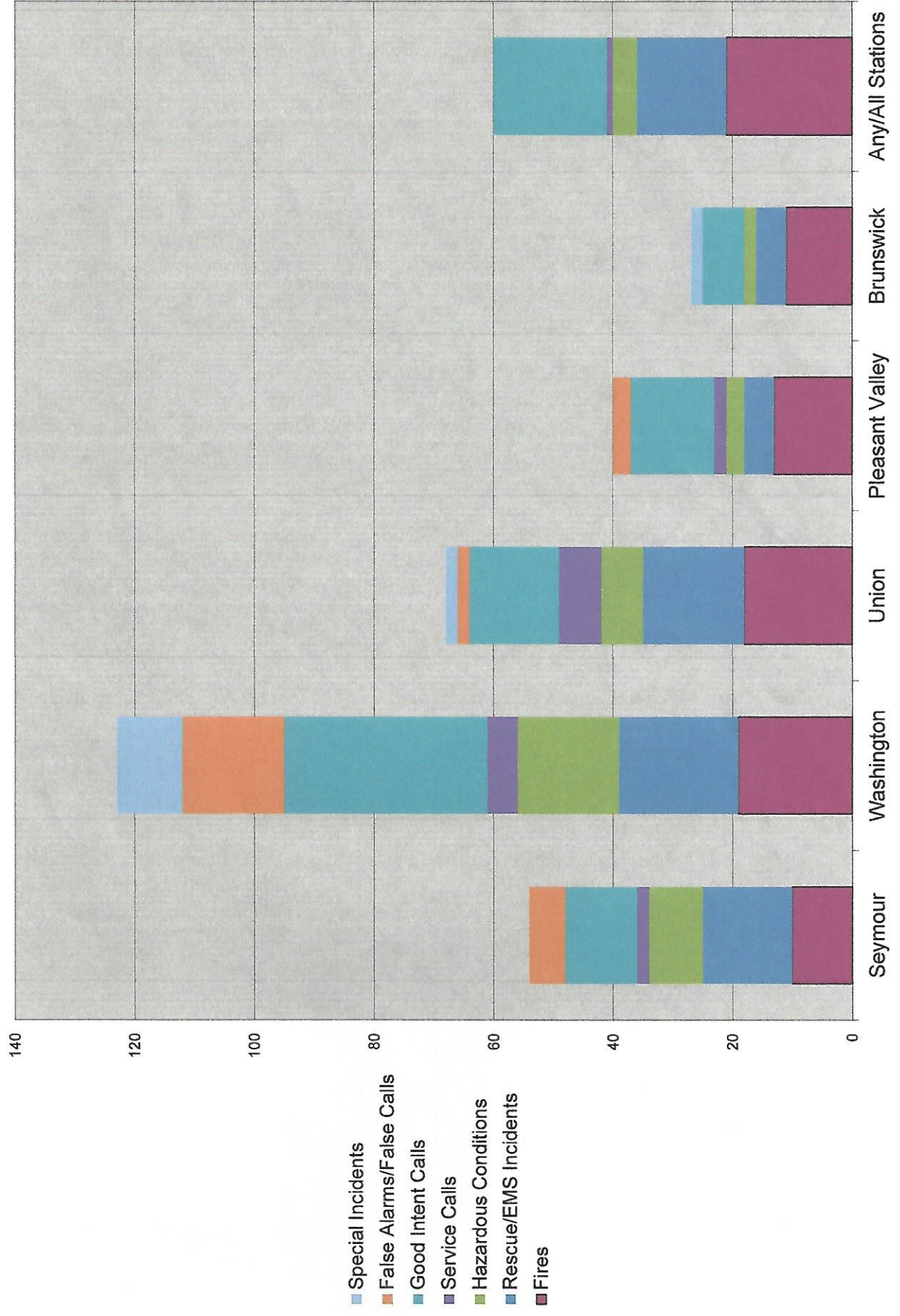
Year	Reports	Recordable Injuries
2020	2	2
2019	1	1
2018	0	0

TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

The Township Fire Department responded to 370 (plus 2 second exposure) incidents in 2020. Almost 45% of these calls were Fires or Rescues/EMS Incidents.

The five Township Fire Department stations work very closely together. Of the 372 calls in 2020, more than one TFD station was paged out for assistance 60 times. The following chart shows a breakdown of calls by station.

2020 Responses By Station



**TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
2020 RESPONSES**

Situation	Seymour	Washington	Union	Pleasant Valley	Brunswick	Any/All TFD	Total
Fires	10	19	18	13	11	21	92
Fire, Other		2		2	1	1	6
Building Fire	2	1	4	1	2	12	22
Fires in Structure Other than a Building				1			1
Cooking Fire, Confined to Container		2					2
Chimney or Flue Fire, Confined to Chimney or Flue	1		1	1			3
Fuel Burner/Boiler Malfunction, Fire Confined							0
Trash or Rubbish Fire (Contained)			2	1	1		4
Fire in Mobile Home used as a Fixed Residence		1				1	2
Mobile Property Fire, Other						1	1
Passenger Vehicle Fire	3	1	3	2			9
Road, Freight or Transport Vehicle Fire		2	3			1	6
Off-Road Vehicle or Heavy Equipment Fire				1	1		2
Natural Vegetation Fire, Other		1		1			2
Forrest, Woods or Wildland Fire			1	1	2	2	6
Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture Fire	1	2	1	2	1	1	8
Grass Fire	1	6	1		1	1	10
Outside Rubbish Fire, Other			1				1
Outside Rubbish, Trash or Waste Fire					1		1
Special Outside Fire, Other	1		1		1		3
Outside Equipment Fire	1	1					2
Cultivated Grain or Crop Fire						1	1
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excessive Heat, Scorch Burns with no Ignition							0
Rescue/EMS Incident	15	20	17	5	5	15	77
Rescue, EMS Incident, Other	1	2	1	3			7
Medical Assist, Assist EMS Crew	1	1	1			2	5
EMS Call, Excluding Vehicle Accident with Injury			1	1			2
Motor Vehicle Accident with Injuries	10	14	12	1	3	11	51
Motor Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident	1	1	1				3
Extrication of Victim(s) from Vehicle		2			1		3
Search for Person in Water					1	2	3
Search for Person on Land			1				1
Swimming/Recreational Water Areas Rescue	2						2
Hazardous Condition	9	17	7	3	2	4	42
Hazardous Condition, Other		1		1			2
Combustible/Flammable Gas/Liquid Condition	1						1
Gasoline or Other Flammable Liquid Spill	1						1
Gas Leak (Natural Gas or LPG)		2	3		1		6
Chemical Spill or Leak						1	1
Carbon Monoxide Incident	4	1	1	1	1		8
Electrical Wiring/Equipment Problem, Other	1		2	1			4
Arcing, Shorted Electrical Equipment		5	1				6
Power Line Down	2	6				1	9
Vehicle Accident, General Cleanup		1				2	3
Accident, Potential Accident, Other		1					1

Situation	Seymour	Washington	Union	Pleasant Valley	Brunswick	Any/All TFD	Total
Service Calls	2	5	7	2	0	1	17
Service Call, Other	1		1				2
Public Service Assistance, Other		1					1
Public Service		1					1
Water or Steam Leak							0
Smoke or Odor Removal							0
Assist Police or Other Governmental Agency		1					1
Unauthorized Burning	1	2	6	2			11
Cover Assignment, Standby, Move up						1	1
Good Intent Calls	12	34	15	14	7	19	101
Good Intent Call - Other	1	5	1	3			10
Dispatched & Cancelled En Route	10	17	9	11	7	17	71
EMS Call, Party Transported by Non-Fire Agency			2				2
Authorized Controlled Burning	1	6	1				8
Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke		3	1			2	6
HazMat Release Investigation w/no HazMat		2					2
Steam, Vapor, Fog or Dust Thought to be Smoke		1	1				2
Steam, Other Gas Mistaken for Smoke, Other							0
False Alarms/False Calls	6	17	2	3	0	0	28
False Alarm/False Call, Other		1		1			2
Heat Detector Activation Due to Malfunction			1				1
Smoke Detector Activation Due to Malfunction	1	2					3
Alarm System Sounded Due to Malfunction	2						2
CO Detector Activation Due to Malfunction		7					7
Sprinkler Activation, No Fire - Unintentional							0
Smoke Detector Activation, No Fire - Unintentional	2	1					3
Unintentional Transmission of Alarm, Other		2					2
Alarm System Activation, No Fire - Unintentional	1	3		1			5
Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation, No CO		1	1	1			3
Severe Weather/Natural Disasters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lightning Strike (No Fire)							0
Wind Storm, Tornado/Hurricane Assessment							0
Severe Weather or Natural Disaster Standby							0
Special Incident Type	0	11	2	0	2	0	15
Special Incident Type, Other							0
Citizen Complaint		11	2		2		15
Total Calls in 2020	54	123	68	40	27	60	372

Township Fire Department

Income Statement 12/31/20

Income

4001 · Town of Seymour	75,245.00
4002 · Town of Washington	185,335.00
4003 · Town of Union	104,535.00
4004 · Town of Pleasant Valley	96,455.00
4005 · Town of Brunswick	43,430.00
4007 · Rock Creek Dispatching	3,500.00
4020 · State of WI 2% Insurance Refund	87,718.24
4060 · Interest Income	5,077.30
4070 · Sale of Used Equipment	850.00
4075 · DNR Fire Reimbursement	764.88
4080 · State of WI Highway Fires	38,930.80
4110 · EC County Water Rescue	6,000.00
4140 · Group Home Inspections	200.00
4200 · Tower Income	91,570.59
4500 · Miscellaneous Income	370.92
4510.9 · Special Rescue Donations	200.00
45115 · State and Federal Grants	7,831.52

Total Income	<u>748,014.25</u>
Gross Profit	<u>748,014.25</u>

Expense

5000 · Repairs to Trucks & Equipment	49,855.18
5100 · Radio, Pagers, Monitor Repairs	3,112.70
5105 · Radio Maintenance Agreement	3,500.00
5106 · Radio Operating Expense	482.64
5111 · Gas Scope Maintenance	2,214.93
5140 · Motor Fuel	8,849.14
5160 · Dispatch Center Maintenance	4,337.90
5196 · Special Rescue Expenses	6,699.16
6000 · Station Equip. Maintenance	7,455.24
6005 · Postage and Shipping	497.65
6011 · SCBA Maintenance	5,597.39
6020 · Office Supplies	2,238.64
6030 · Emergicare Expense	5,629.56
6035 · AED Batteries	303.00
6050 · Insurance	31,242.00
6080 · Dues and Subscriptions	569.00
6090 · Attorney Fees	2,445.35
6100 · Electric/Heat Dispatch Center	3,735.88
6105 · Water-Dispatch Center	201.76
6110 · Telephone	5,982.32
6140 · Computer Expense	887.57
6200 · Information and Public Relations	1,215.04
6210 · Fire Prevention	117.49
6240 · Inspections All Stations	4,331.27
6280 · Outside Fire Costs	209.56
6285 · Medical Fees	12.00
6560 · Payroll Expenses	15,137.20

6999 · Uncategorized Expenses*	10,296.52
7500 · Dispatcher	34,791.64
7502 · Dispatch Relief Help	11,454.00
7510 · Dispatch - Expenses Reimbursed	4,200.00
7555 · Unemployment Compensation	1446.89
7560 · Volunteer Firefighters	48,543.37
7565 · Vol Central Meeting Pay	720.00
7570 · Training Pay	29,308.06
7575 · Emergicare Runs	29,020.91
7581 · Office Manager	18,143.76
7588 · Board President Expense	1,500.00
7595 · Personnel Committee	604.52
7600 · Fire Chief Expense Account	5,000.00
7615 · Assistant Chief	3,500.00
7625 · Chief 3	3,000.00
7630 · Chief 4	3,000.00
7650 · Station Officer Expense Account	5,955.39
7664 · Chief Training Officer Expense	3,000.00
7665 · Chief Fire Inspector Expense	1,000.00
7668 · Information Officer Expense	350.00
7679 · Mechanic Expense	20.83
7699 · Chiefs' Convention	316.25
7700 · Schools & Training	19,710.10
7800 · Firefighter Aux	817.08
7803 · Board Operating Expense	519.00
7805 · Misc. Expenses	16.00
7815 · Contingency Fund	2,000.00
8000 · Depreciation Expense	206,159.79

Total Expense	<u>611,253.68</u>
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Net Ordinary Income	<u>\$ 136,760.57</u>
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Other Expense

6115 · Tower Expenses	10,000.00
9602 · Radio&CommAssetExp.	5,999.77
9604 · StationEquip.AssetExp	10,000.00
9605 · Hose & Nozzles AssetExp	5,000.00
9606 · Fire Truck Purchase	15,060.80
9609 · Turn Out Gear Asset Exp.	27,701.92
9613 · Phone & Fax Equip Asset Exp	1,188.00
9615 · Emergicare Equip Asset Exp.	4,842.30
9650 · Computer Asset Expense	995.00
9625 · Contingency Asset Expense Fund**	79,110.00

Total Other Expense	<u>159,897.79</u>
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Net Other Income	<u>-159,897.79</u>
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Net Income	<u><u>-23,137.22</u></u>
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*Expenditures for 50/50 DNR Grant. Funds received from DNR in 2021.

**Savings (reserved for large equipment costs) used to pay balance of Tender 36.

Township Fire Department, Inc.

Balance Sheet - 12/31/20

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1015 · RCU - CHECKING	14,972.68
1030 · RCU - SAVINGS (Equipment Reserves)	380,753.10
1035 · RCU- Business Savings-Opener	12.17
Total Checking/Savings	<u>395,737.95</u>

Other Current Assets

1499 - Undeposited Funds	500.00
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Total Current Assets	<u>396,237.95</u>
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Fixed Assets

1605 · Land Dispatch Center	25,659.81
1610 · Sewer System Dispatch	4,607.76
1630 · Building Dispatch	105,338.22
1640 · Furniture and Fixtures	4,000.00
1650 · Radio & Communications Equip.	52,716.62
1655 · Traffic Control Units	9,008.66
1670 · Fire Department Equipment	45,363.20
1680 · Fire Trucks	5,258,718.15
1685 · Equipment on Trucks	29,861.29
1693 · SCBA Units	8,574.36
1695 · Turn Out Gear	22,108.79
1696 · Special Rescue Equipment	68,035.96
1697 · Phone & Fax Equipment	10,527.85
1700 · Emergicare Equipment Assets	23,739.55
1820 · Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-2,920,272.62</u>

Total Fixed Assets	<u>2,747,987.60</u>
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TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>3,144,225.55</u></u>
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

2000 · Accounts Payable	<u>-1,033.63</u>
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Total Accounts Payable	-1,033.63
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Other Current Liabilities

2101 · Payroll Liabilities	1,302.40
2300 · Federal Payroll W/H	659.00
2310 · State Payroll W/H	<u>267.48</u>

Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>2,228.88</u>
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Total Current Liabilities	1,195.25
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Long Term Liabilities

2601 · Capital Inv Seymour	-28,695.45
2602 · Capital Inv Washington	-45,618.19
2603 · Capital Inv Union	-28,695.45
2604 · Capital Inv Pleas. Valley	-32,195.45
2605 · Capital Inv Brunswick	<u>-28,234.00</u>

Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>-163,438.54</u>
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Total Liabilities	-162,243.29
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Equity

3000 · Opening Bal Equity	1,498,554.24
3900 · Retained Earnings	1,831,051.82

Net Income	-23,137.22
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Total Equity	<u>3,306,468.84</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>3,144,225.55</u></u>
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