



NORTH HAMPTON FIRE & RESCUE

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Emergency: 9-1-1



Meeting Between
North Hampton Fire & Rescue and the Rye Fire Department
REGIONALIZATION / SHARED USE OF EQUIPMENT
March 1, 2017 - 10:00 am
Mary Herbert Conference Room
235 Atlantic Avenue, North Hampton

In attendance:

Chief Michael Tully, North Hampton Fire & Rescue
Deputy Chief Jason Lajoie, North Hampton Fire & Rescue
Lieutenant Martin Tavitian, President, Local 3211-IAFF
Chief Thomas Lambert, Rye Fire Department
Lieutenant Jake MacGlashing, representative Local 4411-AFF

Agenda Item 1:

Chief Tully called the meeting to order at 9:55am as all attending were present
Open discussion - Aerial Ladder Truck

A meeting to review the proposed idea of both communities co-purchasing/sharing an aerial ladder truck.

A general discussion between both towns to review the current state of their own aerial ladder trucks and the need for replacement. North Hampton currently utilizes a 1984 aerial and Rye a 1988 aerial, both are due for replacement.

Both departments reviewed their apparatus and operational needs:

- North Hampton has a 110' aerial with a large compliment of tools and equipment carried on that apparatus, to include many ground ladders (35', 24', 20', 16', 14'), ventilation and rescue saws, Positive Pressure (PPV) ventilation fan and smoke ejectors, salvage equipment like tarps and water evacuation equipment which includes a water vacuum and portable pump with hoses. It also carries a portable hydraulic rescue tool (Jaws of Life), equipment for hazardous materials responses, a stokes basket for rescue, water rescue equipment, rope rescue equipment for technical rescue, EMS equipment (including Advanced Life Support medication and oxygen), tools for chimney fires, hose and nozzles for elevated master streams and many other hand tools. The department uses the ladder to respond to all fire incidents and motor vehicle accidents. In the cases of MVA's, it blocks the scene for the safety of personnel and patients in the roadways and highways, as these scenes are dangerous to workers due to oncoming or passing traffic - the aerial provides protection due to its size and length and carries additional traffic warning devices for those scenes.
- Rye has 75' aerial truck with a 500-gallon water tank and 1250gpm pump, which provides its own firefighting capabilities. It carries limited ground ladders, a 35' ground ladder with 14' roof ladder, vent fans, water rescue equipment, ice rescue equipment, basic EMS equipment with oxygen, pre-connected hose lines, supply hose, hose and nozzle for elevated master streams, a vent saw and Positive Pressure (PPV) fan. It responds to all fire incidents as a second-due truck and responds to all water/ocean rescue calls.

Rye Fire Department discussed their desire of pump capabilities on their current aerial truck (quint) as it fits their needs and would like to stay with that feature when considering future replacement. North Hampton discussed that their 110' aerial ladder is utilized for reach on many structures, not necessarily height. The two towns discussed single axle versus dual axle apparatus and the positives/negatives of each, the maneuverability of such a truck on each of the town's streets and driveways and the possible limitations and challenges.

Chief Lambert questioned North Hampton's long-term planning; can North Hampton replace their aerial given their current station's design and needs, as it's due to be replaced and has space and height restrictions. Chief Tully remarked that he desires a pre-piped water way on the new aerial for elevated master streams, but that won't fit the current station's design, unless a custom designed and built aerial is sought. The other option would be restructuring the apparatus bay's height, but it is unknown if that can be accomplished.

Chief Lambert discussed staffing needs. His desire is to see a staffing increase in Rye from two (2) firefighters per shift to three (3) firefighters per shift. One shift currently has three members, but the other shifts only operate with two. Chief Tully discussed that North Hampton staffs with three (3) firefighters per shift. Both departments discussed the benefit of having increased staffing responding to each other's calls, as it provides for more efficient service and safety for firefighters.

Operationally, both departments utilize their aerial trucks similarly for all functions, other than North Hampton that responds to MVA's (motor vehicle accidents). Chief Lambert remarked that Rye doesn't respond to as many MVA's as North Hampton does. Chief Tully discussed the higher number and frequency of MVA's that North Hampton sees annually compared to Rye, North Hampton responds to around 60, especially with miles of Interstate 95 and other major roadways in town.

Chief Lambert suggested the Ladder be housed in Rye's station due to its size and space availability. Both towns discussed when the aerial would respond if housed in Rye. North Hampton requests a ladder to respond to all fire incident and alarm responses. This would incur a cost to Rye as Chief Lambert stated he would need to call back personnel to cover their station. Likewise, Rye would be looking for possibly an Engine response from North Hampton to assist on their responses to MVA's and other calls where current staffing is a concern. That in turn would incur a cost to North Hampton. Chief Tully discussed the long-term cost effect of responses by either town and if there would be a savings benefit in the co-purchasing of the aerial, and if that would be a positive or negative over the 20 to 25-year life span of the aerial truck. Both chiefs questioned the possibility of other additional costs involved that weren't presently thought of.

Chief Tully questioned Rye on their average number of annual responses with their aerial. Lt. MacGlashing stated he would research those demographics for the next meeting.

Both towns further discussed operationally, how responding the aerial to North Hampton would work if Rye was committed on another call and no station coverage was available to respond the Ladder to North Hampton. It was stated that if no coverage was in the Rye station, that the aerial couldn't respond, which affects North Hampton where they'd be required to request a mutual aid response from another community. There was also a short discussion on response times between both towns and how that would affect services.

Further discussion on town demographics, as far as areas of concerns for aerial truck maneuverability. It was determined that Rye has more smaller streets than North Hampton, however Chief Tully stated that his concern are driveways that provide for difficult access versus difficult street access in North Hampton.

It was determined that both departments share the same core capabilities when it comes to their aerial truck use and the tools and equipment carried on them. North Hampton's aerial has more storage capacity and carries more diverse equipment than Rye, but both towns could benefit from all equipment. This raised into question, if both towns co-purchased an aerial, who would be responsible for paying the cost of repairs to damaged equipment, the title, registration and insurance on the apparatus. It also raised to question which

equipment would need to be removed from North Hampton's current ladder and relocated to other apparatus, which is currently space-restrictive. North Hampton's Ladder transports a vast number of tools and equipment that the other apparatus cannot carry due to space restrictions.

Information needed for the next meeting from both towns would be:

- Number of times the Ladder truck was requested to respond
- Number of actual responses the Ladder made
- What the responses were for

Both departments discussed how operationally, neither should be forced to change their response or operations due to the fact that a piece of apparatus is stationed elsewhere. Example, North Hampton should not deter from requesting a response of a ladder truck to an Alarm of possible fire in the building, because that apparatus is stationed in Rye. However, North Hampton wouldn't request the Ladder from Rye to respond to MVA's due to the location, access and response times from Rye to Interstate 95 (for example). This would, however, require a change in North Hampton's response to MVA's. Chief stated he would possibly utilize a Tanker response to MVA's, as keeping a second-due Engine is important for any additional emergencies that come in while companies are committed to a roadway incident.

Chief Tully suggested a "test run" prior to committing to an agreement of a large capital expense and operational change. A "test run" could include having Rye respond to North Hampton with a Ladder to see what effects this may have on either town.

Prior to closing of the discussions, both towns decided upon the next meeting date, which is scheduled for March 29, 2017 at 10:00am and hosted by the Rye Fire Department.

Meeting adjourned at 11:36am.

