

Reporting Period: Fire and By-law Enforcement Department Quarterly Report for the period: Quarter 1 – January, February, March 2024

Recommendation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Q1/2024 Fire and By-law Enforcement Department Report be received for information.

Department Overview and Statistics:

Fire Prevention

The department started the year off re-establishing a pub ed group with firefighters from all three stations. The group will be involved, teach, and actively educate the community regarding life safety, fire prevention and suppression, as well as fire-safety issues. These events may take place at off-site locations, as well as at fire stations.

Pelham scouts group attended the fire hall for an evening of First Aid training.

The department had one large loss fire in the month of February with the probable cause was a lithium ion battery over heating and going into thermal runaway. The fire was contained to the bedroom of the apartment. Great stop by crews on scene.

Fire prevention is continuously monitoring and distributing town employees of masks, wipes, and hand sanitizers.

Training

Recruits continued their training, completing first aid, Defib, EPI, naloxone testing, portable extinguishers, ropes and knots, overhaul and salvage, and forcible entry. Recruits received pagers and are now permitted to respond for medical calls.

Training and fire prevention officers delivered first aid training with Scouts group.

By-law

The bylaw department performed 65 random odour tests for cannabis in the first quarter of 2024 with no violations being recorded. The Town received 33 complaints relating to cannabis odour for the first quarter of 2024 with no violations being recorded. Of the 33 Cannabis Odour complaints received, 18 were from Welland with one Welland resident making up most of these complaints. A total of 55 bylaw complaints were received for the first quarter of 2024.

Emergency Management

Chief Lymburner participated in the planning for the solar eclipse event, which occurred on April 8, 2024. Niagara was in the path of total solar eclipse and large volumes of visitors were expected to travel to Niagara to view this natural phenomenon.

Pelham fire had extra human resources staged at different locations for the event:

- Pump 1, 4 firefighters staged at the MCC.
- RTV 3, 2 firefighters staged at the MCC.
- Rescue 1, 4 firefighters staged at station one.
- Pump 2, 4 firefighters staged at the airport.
- Rescue 2, 4 firefighters staged at station two.

March 27 & 28, Pelham fire department hosted an IMS 200 (Incident Management System) course at station 1, taught by Emergency Management Canada. 30 participants from around Niagara Region participated, which included 12 Town of Pelham employees. Pelham fire also hosted the IMS300 course April 2-4, 2024.

Suppression

Incident responses were normal volumes, 1 fire loss which involved a family residence in a four-plex building. Fire was contained to upper bedroom, firefighters quickly knocked down which resulted in minimal damage.

Projects:

Pumper 3 is in production with an expected delivery date of July 2024

Utility 3 is on order with delivery set for July 2024

Rescue 1 is almost complete with a delivery of May 2024

Station one repair / replacement is continuing with staff reports regarding council options for the proposed project.

Constituent Concerns and Issues Arising:

Nothing to report.

Employee Updates:

In January Pelham fire department celebrated two (2) 15-year anniversaries, Captain Jason Longhurst and firefighter Mark Schneider, both from station 1.

Grants, Concerns, RFPs, Agreements:

Anything to report

Meetings:

Regional chiefs

Regional emergency management committee

Eclipse 2024 working group.

Regional fire coordinators

Council

Health and safety committee

SLT

Medical assist committee