

WHAT PTVFD IS DOING FOR THE CITIZENS OF PERRY TOWNSHIP

Perry Township Fire Dept is the only volunteer fire department in the greater Evansville area with a complete automobile extrication equipped truck, along with having 7 men certified as having completed the course of study, classroom and physical, in auto extrication. In case of an auto accident in the area where people are entrapped in the wreckage, our men and equipment are available to free the victim(s) and provide the necessary first-aid until emergency medical treatment is available.

We have 1 member who is a Red Cross certified First Aid Instructor and 10 other firemen that are certified in First Aid through Red Cross.

There are 15 portable monitor radios in the fire department, enabling the firemen to be on call at any location in and around Perry Township. In addition, all other firemen have monitor radios in their homes. Response to the fire station is often less than 2 minutes after receipt of the alarm.

In the 85 fire runs we had in 1972, our average manpower responding was 8.69 men per fire run. This is an increase of 16% more manpower per alarm than the previous year, denoting an increased interest in the fire department.

We have been pre-fire planning existing commercial, manufacturing, school and apartment buildings in our area. Visits to multiple residential buildings while they are under construction reveal the types of materials used and their resistance to fires. Tours of local manufacturing facilities point out the locations of hazardous materials, and plans are made for the extinguishment of fires in the various areas of the building. Tours of ISUE have revealed where possible flammable material may be used, the locations of standpipes, sprinklers and fire hydrants, and access to the many buildings and the power plant.

Classes from the local Elementary schools have visited the fire stations and the children have been given a lesson in fire prevention for both the home and schools, along with pamphlets and coloring books to further impress upon them the need for fire prevention.

A fire prevention committee has been organized to bring the message of fire prevention into the PTA and other civic organizations. The demonstration and lecture program is currently in work, and will be available this year.

A clothing and home furnishings bank is in existence to aid families that have had their belongings destroyed. The bank exists through donations of used clothing and furniture, which is stored in the basement of the church at Hogue and Woods Ave., and the service is provided free of charge.

Our members are in training a minimum of 40 hours per year with the fire department, and in addition we regularly send members to the various seminars, lectures, fire schools and other training sessions that are held throughout the state, in order to keep abreast of the latest techniques and equipment available in fire safety, fire prevention, and fire fighting.

In addition to the physical training the members receive, we have a library of the latest in training manuals, books, magazines, and other publications dealing with the fire service. The materials are available to every fireman, and every fireman is encouraged to avail himself to the library.

With the last fire apparatus we purchased and the future purchases, we have concerned ourselves with meeting or exceeding the standards established by the National Fire Protection Association in order to receive a fire district fire protection rating for Perry Township which will possibly lower the cost of fire insurance to the residents.

The mutual aid pact with the Suburban Fire Association and the City of Evansville assures us that we will be able to provide adequate fire protection for our residents, regardless of the seriousness of the situation. Additional equipment, and manpower are but minutes away when we ask for assistance by way of the 2-way radios in each of our four trucks.

All this is being provided to people of Perry Township at a cost which is much less than that of the City of Evansville Fire Department Retirement Fund. Perry Township residents last year were taxed at a rate of \$0.10 per each \$100 of assessed valuation for fire protection, versus the City of Evansville rate of \$0.24 per each \$100 of assessed valuation for firemens pension fund alone.

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF PERRY TOWNSHIP

Dual lane highway construction to aid in the increased flow of traffic passing through Perry Township due to increased enrollment at ISUE, construction of the river port at Mt. Vernon, and Mead Johnson Research center at Mt. Vernon. Although dual lane traffic is considerably safer than the single lane highway, we expect the accident rate to increase.

Construction of multiple story buildings and multiple occupancy structures, plus the many new single residential homes under construction. Golden Tower and Valley View apartments on Red Bank Road are nearing completion and the planned apartment complex on Shutte Road near the Expressway are examples.

ISUE buildings and grounds are continually expanding. Future plans are for student dormitories and increased private construction of homes for those students living off campus. Perry Township Fire Department must plan now for the future fire protection of our residents.

Construction will soon begin on a new shopping center just off the Expressway, with another shopping center and mall being proposed and considered. Here again, Perry Township Fire Department will have the responsibility of providing fire protection.

There are no less than 15 new streets in Perry Township in the past two years, denoting an increase in construction of private dwellings.

The increased cost of living has affected the fire department as well as the private citizens. Replacement parts prices have increased as much as 300% on some items since 1970.

Much of the equipment purchased for the fire department when the department was founded 14 years ago is in need of replacement due to normal wear and tear. Protective clothing for each fireman costs a minimum of \$125.00.

If and when Vandigov becomes a reality, Perry Township Fire Department wants to continue to provide adequate fire protection for those residents of our township at the lowest possible cost. We members and residents of Perry Township do not feel we can afford the luxury of City of Evansville fire protection, therefore Perry Township Fire Department must continue to update our equipment, and to purchase more and better equipment to meet our obligations.

FUTURE PLANS OF PTVFD

We are currently studying specifications on a new volume pumper with a capacity of 1000-1250 GPM for use on family residences, multiple family residences, apartment complexes, manufacturing facilities, and shopping centers, as well as churches schools and the new university. The new apparatus will be a companion to the truck purchased in 1970. Estimated cost-----\$50-60,000. Year 1974-75

Replacement of firemens turnout clothing, some of which is as old as the department.

Additional portable radios to equip all firemen.

Mutual dispatching system where the City of Evansville fire department and the members of the Suburban Fire Association will be dispatched by a common dispatcher. This will afford greater mutual aid potential in that one dispatcher will have knowledge of existing circumstances in all the surrounding area.

Replacement of #1 truck, 1948 International, with a combination attack pumper and rescue apparatus. Estimated cost-----\$20-25,000. Year 1975-76

Purchase of a used volume pumper as a companion to the other two pumpers. Estimated cost-----\$10-20,000. Year 1977-78.

Replace pumper purchased in 1970. Estimated cost \$70-80,000. Year 1980.

Replace Station #1. Estimated cost-----\$30-40,000. Year 1980-83.