



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: 03/18/2014

Agenda Item #: 6

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Chief Kevin Dempsey, Fire Department

THRU: Susan Parker, Town Administrator

TITLE: Proposal to Assume Beach Patrol

Summary:

The Council requested a proposal to increase safety on the beach. Our proposal includes the Fire Department assuming the Beach Patrol operation. This proposal includes one additional staff member and equipment for the Fire Department.

Recommendation:

I propose to hire a full-time Fire Marshal/Beach Patrol Supervisor that would work a 40-hour schedule. This person would be in charge of the Beach Patrol operation during the summer season (April – October) and be responsible for the Fire Marshal duties during the off season (October – April). This person would respond to all emergencies on the Stand which will decrease our response time to the scene. Listed below would be the duties of this position:

Beach Patrol Supervisor – Summer Season

Performs technical and supervisory work enforcing Town Ordinances and assumes overall supervision of all Beach Patrol Staff. Responsibilities shall include hiring, training and scheduling all beach patrol staff under the Chief/Deputy Chief guidance, and patrolling the island including code enforcement, beach safety, restroom opening, closing and monitoring. The supervisor will respond to emergencies on the Beach Strand and be in direct communication with the Fire Department personnel responding to all emergency calls.

Fire Marshal – Off Season

Performs technical and supervisory work enforcing fire codes and performing fire inspections; conducts fire education programs and promotes overall fire prevention efforts within the Town as well as full participation in fire suppression, emergency medical services, and rescue response; serves in the absence of the Chief and/or Deputy Chief. The position would work closely with the Building Inspections Department to ensure all new businesses receive inspections and have obtained proper permits.

Requested Equipment

The purchase of a Side by Side Utility Vehicle (UTV) would enable the Firefighters to transport patients off the Beach Strand, and would carry all needed Medical Equipment. This vehicle would reduce the need for a Pickup Truck to be on the Strand. The purchase of a Jet Ski would require less labor for the launching operation and allow quicker access to the water. These two purchases would allow us to maneuver the Strand much safer during the summer months. Currently our Pickup Truck and Boat are over forty feet long; the UTV and Jet Ski is less than twenty feet long and will provide us better visibility while responding to emergencies on the Beach Strand. The UTV would also be a great asset during special events like Sunset at Sunset, the MS Bike Ride or other such events.

Cost Analysis

Currently, the Beach Patrol budget is approximately \$40,000 for nine (9) non-emergency trained employees - one (1) supervisor and eight (8) beach patrol employees.

The estimated 2013/2014 budget impact is below:

2013/2014 Budget

Fire Marshal/Beach Patrol Supervisor Salary (Mid-March – 06/30)	\$14,190 (includes benefits)
Equipment Purchase	<u>\$39,000 (one-time cost)</u>
Total Proposed Cost for the 2013/2014 Budget	\$53,190

2014/2015 Budget

Annual Fire Marshal/Beach Patrol Supervisor Salary including benefits	\$56,760.00
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Council Action

Council is requested to consider:

1. Approving the hiring of a Fire Marshal/Beach Patrol Supervisor
2. Purchasing the UTV and Jet Ski
3. Approving Beach Patrol as a Fire Department Operation