

FUND: General Fund
DEPARTMENT: Fire
Description and Responsibilities

Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue is chartered as a private organization distinct and separate from the Town. However, in recognition of the vital public importance of the services, the Town shares in funding the staffing and operations. The Town owns the centrally located Station #1 in which Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue is housed, Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue owns a sub-station located west of the Town on US 221, and a sub-station located east of town on Aho Road. Both sub-stations are operated and fully funded by Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue.

The Town funds most of the career staffing and Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue supports in partially reimbursing the Town for employee costs as well as contributing to the debt service for Station 1 from district revenues. Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue provides fire inspections, public education programs, and emergency response of all types with 24-hour coverage. With the ability to transport as needed, the medical response is normally initial treatment at the paramedic level of care. The roster has many certified Rescue Technicians, certified Firefighters, EMT's and Paramedics. Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue provides fire and rescue service to the Town of Blowing Rock, the Blowing Rock Fire District and the North Caldwell Fire District.

The Property Protection Class rating is a 4 in the city limits and for any property in the district that is within five miles of a station and within 1,000 feet of a rated water supply. Properties in the rural district that are within 5 miles of a fire station are rated as Class 9S. Blowing Rock also provides a 9E rating for properties located more than five but less than six miles from a station. The entire Blowing Rock District is 58 square miles and includes areas in both Watauga and Caldwell County and within the Town of Blowing Rock.

Staffing and Schedules

Fire & Rescue currently employs fourteen individuals on a full-time basis within the Fire Department – a Chief, Deputy Chief, six shift Captain / Paramedics, two Firefighter / Paramedics, four Firefighter / EMTs. The Part-time staffing goal is for one FTE position to be filled 24-hours per day. All individuals provide response for fire, rescue and EMS calls throughout all three coverage areas.

Station #1, located on Valley Boulevard, is staffed 24 hours per day with 3 full-time and one part-time employee while Station #3 is staffed 24 hours with one Captain / Paramedic. Station #2 is partially staffed during daytime hours with Station #1 personnel. The six shift Captains and Firefighter/EMTs work a 24hr-on/48hr-off shift. The Chief and Deputy Chief are typically scheduled from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. All schedules remain flexible for emergency response and seasonal call-volumes.

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES
DESCRIPTION: FIRE DEPARTMENT
CODE: 10-10-4340

ACCOUNT		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	Actual	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
002	Fire Salaries	638,044	629,443	707,445	820,604	986,428
003	Overtime	23,761	38,000	36,900	36,900	20,000
004	Part-time Salaries	40,154	88,000	88,000	88,000	38,000
005	Part-time FICA Expense	0	6,732	6,732	6,732	2,907
005	FICA Expense	50,438	51,059	56,942	65,599	76,992
006	Group Insurance	86,398	90,000	93,666	133,176	155,054
007	401K	31,057	33,372	37,217	42,875	50,321
008	Retirement	95,902	111,196	134,503	154,951	169,583
	Personnel Subtotal	965,753	1,047,803	1,161,406	1,348,837	1,499,285
011	Telephone	2,462	2,500	5,000	5,600	6,000
014	Employee Development	-	-	-	-	-
016	Maint./Repair Buildings/Equip.	29,647	18,000	19,500	25,000	25,000 *
017	Maint./Repair Vehicles	20	-	-	-	-
031	Gasoline/Diesel	8,741	10,000	7,000	11,000	14,000
057	Medical Expense (drug testing)	66	400	250	250	250
213	Utilities (Station #1- Hwy. 321)	10,340	24,000	24,000	23,000	30,500
	Operating & Maint. Subtotal	51,276	54,900	55,750	64,850	75,750
500	Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	16,670 \$
	Capital Subtotal	-	-	-	-	16,670
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,017,029	1,102,703	1,217,156	1,413,687	1,591,705

* Includes \$2,500 for landscape maint.
 \$ 16,670 Portion of Green Hill Comm. Bldg.