

FUND: General Fund
DEPARTMENT: Fire

Description and Responsibilities

The appropriations within the Fire Department provide financial assistance from the Town of Blowing Rock to Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue.

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 organization, the Town has maintained a close working relationship and has provided annual financial assistance in support of their activities. The Town owns the centrally located Station #1 in which Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue is housed; and also holds title to and insures fire and rescue vehicles. Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue owns a sub-station located west of the Town on US 221, which is operated and fully funded by the volunteer organization. Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue has also acquired land for a future sub-station to be located off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Aho Road, which will serve the eastern portions of their district.

The Fire Department funds career staff that supplements about 30 volunteers of Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue, and 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, and 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 Class 5 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 54 square miles and includes areas in both Watauga and Caldwell County.

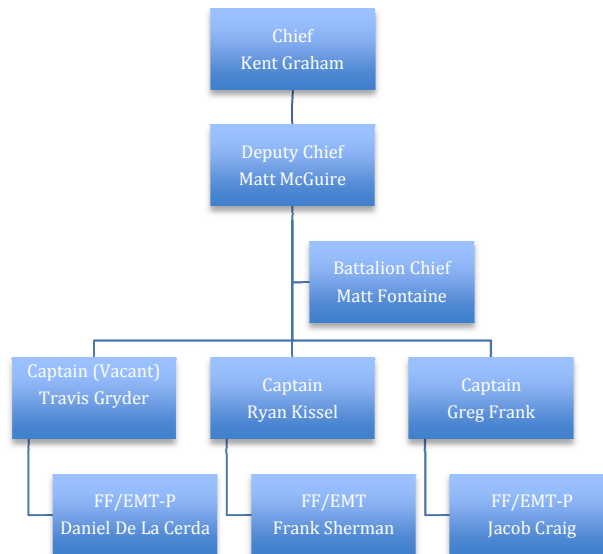
Staffing and Schedules

The Town currently employs nine individuals on a full-time basis within the Fire Department – a Chief, Deputy Chief, Prevention & Training Battalion Chief, three Captain / Paramedics, and three Firefighter/EMTs. 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. The three 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. The Battalion Chief typically works an 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday schedule, and occasionally works a sliding schedule to provide volunteer and public program availability. All schedules remain flexible for emergency response and seasonal peak call-volumes.

Seven-Year History Comparison

	Call Volume	Value Involved	Total Fire Loss	Total Saved	Inspections	Consults	Plan Reviews	Training Hours
2010	687	\$2,310,200	\$186,750	\$2,123,450	152	42	34	1820
Town	56%							
Rural	44%							
2011	837	\$36,674,649	\$230,450	\$36,444,199	263	46	50	3890
Town	63%							
Rural	37%							
2012	887	\$8,188,175	\$68,550	\$8,119,625	225	22	19	5985
Town	54%							
Rural	46%							
2013	856	\$5,085,600	\$186,920	\$4,898,680	100	18	12	3225
Town	49%							
Rural	51%							
2014	1003	\$5,297,299	\$159,950	\$5,137,349	131	14	8	4152
Town	62%							
Rural	38%							



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

ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2009-2010 ACTUAL	2010-2011 ACTUAL	2011-2012 ACTUAL	2012-2013 ACTUAL	2013-2014 ACTUAL	2014-2015 ADOPTED	2015-2016 ADOPTED
002	Firemen Compensation							
002	Fire Salaries	233,564	236,597	293,472	256,890	304,773	347,181	356,013
003	Overtime	10,177	8,181	7,343	7,625	13,409	5,410	10,000
004	Part-time Salaries	22,109	35,752	7,076	14,712	11,534	10,000	67,500
005	Part-time FICA Expense	-	-	-	-	-	765	5,164
005	FICA Expense	18,651	20,689	21,572	20,150	23,876	26,973	28,000
006	Group Insurance	29,719	30,006	37,182	35,309	41,493	54,272	56,820
007	401K	4,886	5,066	5,807	5,175	6,075	10,577	14,641
008	Retirement	22,738	28,447	34,426	31,052	37,838	43,968	45,386
	Personnel Subtotal	341,845	364,737	406,878	370,913	438,998	499,146	583,523
011	Telephone	5,713	5,286	4,307	3,847	2,106	3,250	3,017
013	Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
014	Employee Development	907	2,745	78	133	154	-	-
016	Maint./Repair Buildings/Equip.	672	144	675	235	175	-	16,792 *
017	Maint./Repair Vehicles	1,006	28	-	9	-	-	-
031	Gasoline/Diesel	14,103	17,139	16,877	17,749	6,321	19,000	20,000
033	Materials and Supplies	45	82	-	-	-	-	-
036	Uniforms	600	600	700	700	600	-	-
050	Contribution to Fire Dept.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
057	Medical Expense (drug testing)	190	85	260	180	0	400	400
213	Utilities (New Building)	30,070	32,284	30,230	33,878	34,379	35,000	35,000
250	Contribution to Rescue Sq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Operating & Maint. Subtotal	53,305	58,394	53,127	56,730	43,736	57,650	75,209
500	Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
505	Transfer to Capital Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Capital Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	395,150	423,131	460,005	427,643	482,734	556,796	658,732

* Fire Station Building and Equipment Maintenance
- Lighting change out to more energy efficient fixtures
600 Speaker system maintenance
500 Alarm system maintenance
2,400 HVAC maintenance
2,639 Air cleaning specialist annual maintenance service plan
965 Generator maintenance
1,688 Floor maintenance
8,000 Garage door system maintenance (issues recently)
16,792

One Time Expenses

- Lighting change out to more energy efficient fixtures
8,000 Garage door system maintenance (issues recently)
8,000