

**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 that were purchased by the fire department. 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 is also beginning construction of a second sub-station, which will serve the eastern portions of their district.

The Fire Department funds career staff that supplements about 30 volunteers and part-time staff 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, 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 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 54 square miles and includes areas in both Watauga and Caldwell County.

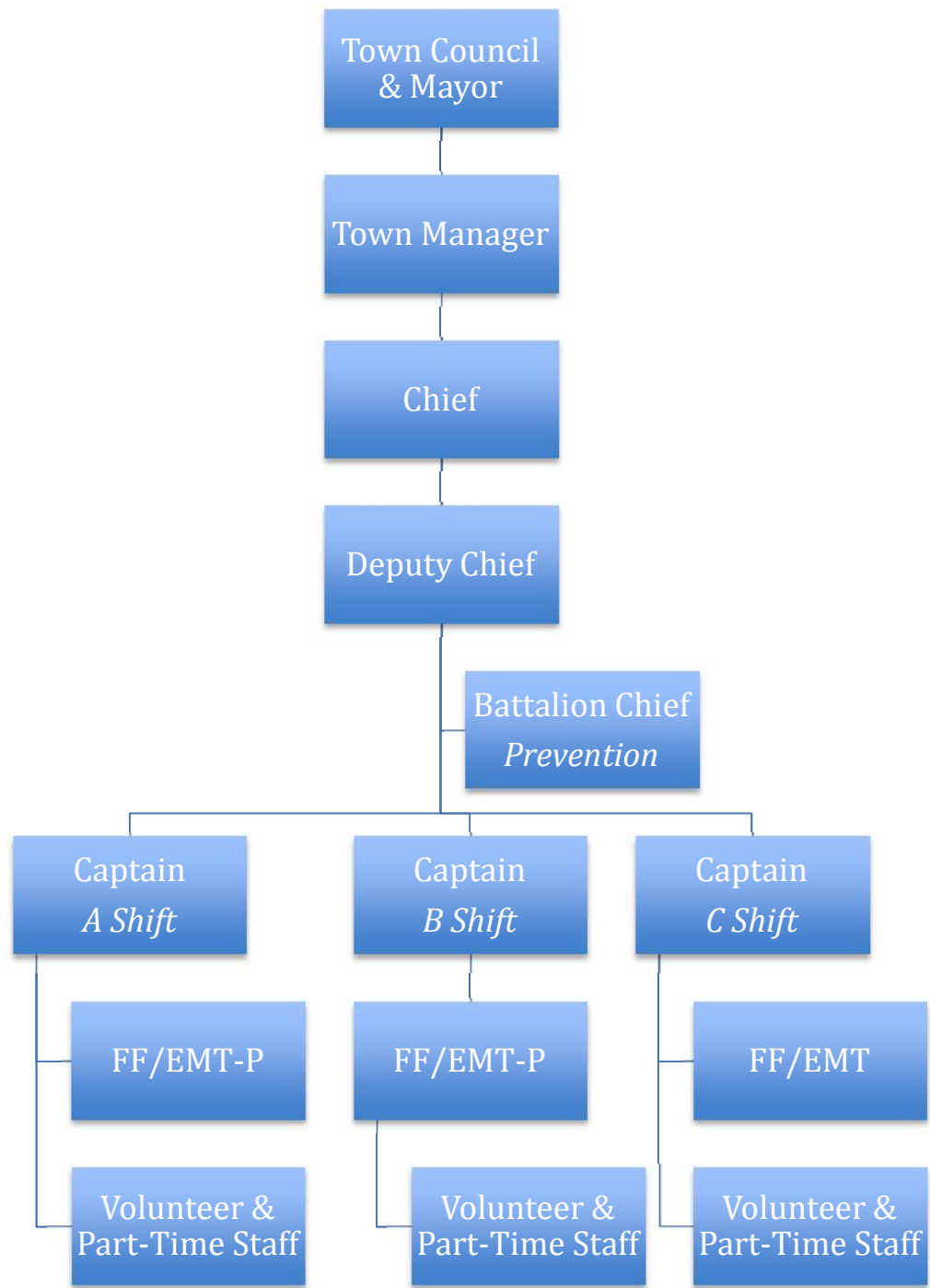
### **Staffing and Schedules**

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.

## Eight-Year History Comparison

	Call Volume	Value Involved	Total Fire Loss	Total Saved	Inspections	Consults	Plan Reviews	Training Hours
2008	617	\$1,600,000	\$500,000	\$1,100,000	112	32	18	6501
Town	59%							
Rural	41%							
2009	491	\$2,400,000	\$522,000	\$1,878,000	110	19	21	2130
Town	56%							
Rural	44%							
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%							
2015	1108	\$955,850	\$464,800	\$491,050	233	12	4	1994
Town	64%							
Rural	36%							



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

ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2010-2011 ACTUAL	2011-2012 ACTUAL	2012-2013 ACTUAL	2013-2014 ACTUAL	2014-2015 ACTUAL	2015-2016 ADOPTED	2016-2017 ADOPTED
002	Firemen Compensation							
002	Fire Salaries	236,597	293,472	256,890	304,773	338,817	356,013	363,315
003	Overtime	8,181	7,343	7,625	13,409	25,123	10,000	10,000
004	Part-time Salaries	35,752	7,076	14,712	11,534	20,246	67,500	255,458
005	Part-time FICA Expense	-	-	-	-	28,383	5,164	19,542
005	FICA Expense	20,689	21,572	20,150	23,876	-	28,000	28,559
006	Group Insurance	30,006	37,182	35,309	41,493	49,354	56,820	56,431
007	401K	5,066	5,807	5,175	6,075	10,580	14,641	18,666
008	Retirement	28,447	34,426	31,052	37,838	44,225	45,386	49,987
	Personnel Subtotal	364,737	406,878	370,913	438,998	516,728	583,523	801,958
011	Telephone	5,286	4,307	3,847	2,106	2,006	3,017	3,634
013	Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
014	Employee Development	2,745	78	133	154	-	-	-
016	Maint./Repair Buildings/Equip.	144	675	235	175	-	16,792	28,592 *
017	Maint./Repair Vehicles	28	-	9	-	-	-	-
031	Gasoline/Diesel	17,139	16,877	17,749	6,321	9,623	20,000	15,000
033	Materials and Supplies	82	-	-	-	-	-	-
036	Uniforms	600	700	700	600	-	-	-
050	Contribution to Fire Dept.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
057	Medical Expense (drug testing)	85	260	180	0	-	400	400
213	Utilities (New Building)	32,284	30,230	33,878	34,379	35,132	35,000	35,000
250	Contribution to Rescue Sq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Operating & Maint. Subtotal	58,394	53,127	56,730	43,736	46,761	75,209	82,626
500	Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
505	Transfer to Capital Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Capital Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>423,131</b>	<b>460,005</b>	<b>427,643</b>	<b>482,734</b>	<b>563,489</b>	<b>658,732</b>	<b>884,584</b>
* Fire Station Building and Equipment Maintenance								
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)							
3,800	Current lighting lamp and ballast changes							
8,000	Lighting change to more energy efficient / lower maintenance fixtures							
		<u>28,592</u>						