

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT  
DEPARTMENT REPORTS  
JANUARY 2009**

**General Government**

Thomas Ford, Planner/Community Development Director  
Linda Greenlaw, Town Clerk  
Virginia Lindsey, Finance Director  
Judith Mathiau, Assessor

**Culture and Recreation**

Susan Dates, Rental Agent, Rockport Opera House  
Molly Larson, Librarian

**Public Safety**

Stephen Beveridge, Public Works Director  
Craig Cooley, EMA Director  
Mark Kelley, Police Chief  
Abbie Leonard, Harbor Master – Off Duty  
Bruce Woodward, Fire Chief

# Office of Planning and Community Development

## Monthly Report – January 2009

### Permits

**Miscellaneous Permits:** Sixteen permits were issued in January 2009. This figure includes renovations, a pathway, a chimney, three use, and five sign permits. Sixteen permits were issued in January 2008 as well.

**Plumbing and Subsurface Wastewater Permits:** Four internal plumbing permits were issued in January 2009. Four permits were also issued in January 2008.

### Boards & Committees

**Planning Board:** In January 2009 the Planning Board discussed a classroom building for Ashwood Waldorf School; a water filtration equipment building and earthen lagoon for Aqua Maine, Inc.; and a lobster cookout at Spruce Ridge Inn. The Planning Board met in January 2008 to review the following applications: change of use for Pen Bay Ice; change of use for Deirdre Gramas; maintenance shop and storage building for Megunticook Golf Club and a utility building for Pen Bay Medical Center.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** In January 2009 the Zoning Board of Appeals heard special exceptions reviews for a building addition for water filtration equipment and an earthen lagoon for Aqua Maine and for 49 dwelling units at Samorock, LLC. to be reviewed as a ‘*multi-family development*’ as required by Justice Hjelm. In January 2008 the Zoning Board of Appeals reviewed a request to divide one non-conforming lot into two non-conforming lots.

**Harbor Committee:** In January 2009 the Harbor Committee discussed hoist protocol; parking for fishermen; and the location of the pumpout station. The Harbor Committee did not meet in January 2008.

**Conservation Commission:** In January 2009 the Conservation Commission reviewed: a Clam Cove update; a pesticide letter for Select Board approval; a build-out analysis project report; a MEACC meeting to discuss updating local Shoreland Zoning Ordinances and the future aims and goals of the Rockport Conservation Commission.

**Ordinance Review Committee:** The ORC meeting scheduled for January 29th was cancelled due to snow. The Committee met on January 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss LUO Sections 911, 907, 300 and 1000. In 2008 the ORC met on January 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 to discuss Sections 1400, 300 and 908 of the Land Use Ordinance.

*Applications, permits, and supporting documentation are available for public review at the Planning and Community Development Office*

**TOWN CLERK  
MONTHLY REPORT  
JANUARY 2009**

- We issued 1 (3) Hunting License, 16 (20) Fishing Licenses, 12 (13) Fishing and Hunting Licenses, 0 (1) Fall Turkey, 0 (1) Small Game Hunt, 0 (2) Spring Turkeys, 0 (3) Migratory, 0 (1) Superpak, 0 (1) Supersport, 1 (1) Archery License, 0 (1) Antlered License, 0 (1) Antlerless License, 2 (3) Coyote Night Hunting Licenses, 2 (0) Muzzleload, 0 (1) Duplicate Fish & Hunt and 0 (1) Complimentary Spring Turkey, Fall Turkey and Muzzleload License. Fees collected totaled \$855.00 (\$1,369.75).
- 18 (8) Boat Registrations, (54) 40 Snowmobiles and 1 (2) ATV Registration were issued. Fees collected were \$2,294 (\$1,986.00), which includes \$165 (\$415.00) sales tax.
- We issued 299 (306) dog licenses and 1 (1) Kennel License at a fee of \$1123 (\$1,182). We made 286 (382) reminder calls to our residents notifying them that it was time to renew their dog licenses before the end of the day January 31<sup>st</sup> in order to avoid a \$15.00 per dog late fee. As a result of disconnected phones or no one answering the phone, we sent 66 (31) a friendly reminder to notify our pet owners that it is now time to relicense their dog(s).
- Processed 3 (6) transfers, 157 (177) passenger cars, 34 (9) commercial vehicles, 4 (7) trailers, 2 (2) motor homes, 0 (1) farm truck, 2 (6) duplicate registrations and 0 (2) duplicate stickers. Monies taken in for these transactions (excise tax) totaled \$45,327.11 (\$50,729.47)(down 10.65%).
- We processed \$60,230.20 (\$51,485.63) in real estate taxes this month as a result of sending 32 foreclosure notices which will mature on February 27th. This includes fifteen timeshares, three mobile homes, twelve land with buildings, one land with mobile home and one building only. In 2008, there were 23 foreclosures (6 Timeshares & 17 residences)
- Two hundred 247 (258) Harbor Bills were sent this month. This is for the 2009-10 mooring, tie-off, dinghy rack space, commercial float and commercial hauler fees.
- I did not attend or take minutes for Select Board meeting.

\*The first number represents 2009 and the second one in parenthesis 2008

**Virginia B. Lindsey**  
**Rockport Finance Director**  
**Monthly Report - February 10, 2009**

The finance department is responsible for the administrative and accounting work necessary to maintain the town's finances. Work involves maintaining the chart of accounts, preparing monthly financial reports, preparing payrolls (including all required state and federal payroll reports and taxes), preparing accounts payable warrants, reconciling bank statements, preparing insurance renewals, and submitting claims (auto, property and casualty, workers compensation claims), and a number of other bookkeeping requirements. Annually, the finance director assists the town manager in the preparation of the town's budget.

**The report for the month of January 2009 includes the following:**

- Investments dropped in January after having rebounded slightly in December; 1.2% less than the previous month. Overall, investments have decreased by 12.66% since July 2008.
- Interest earned on general funds continues to decrease significantly—4.42% Jan '08 v. 0.20% Jan '09.
- Cash on hand at month end less than last year at the same time by \$32,352.77.
- Taxes paid to date represents 51.10% of taxes committed, compared to 52.32% collected Jan 2008.

	January - 2008	January - 2009	Difference		
<b>Budget</b>					
Wages	\$ 131,967.50	\$ 106,922.10	\$ (25,045.40)	-18.98%	
Other Expenses	\$ 919,291.91	\$ 844,875.61	\$ (74,416.30)	-8.09%	
Total Expenses	\$ 1,051,259.41	\$ 951,797.71	\$ (99,461.70)	-9.46%	
Total Revenue			\$ -		
NET	\$ 1,051,259.41	\$ 951,797.71	\$ (99,461.70)	-9.46%	
<b>Cash on Hand Balance</b>					
General Fund	\$ 819,185.96	\$ 786,833.19	\$ (32,352.77)	-3.95%	
<b>Taxes Paid (for the month)</b>	\$ 45,744.18	\$ 50,003.32	\$ 4,259.14	9.31%	
<b>Taxes Paid (to date)</b>	\$ 5,508,829.94	\$ 5,571,422.30	\$ 62,592.36	1.14%	
<b>Investments</b>					
Public Assistance	\$ 274,860.83	\$ 235,806.47	\$ (39,054.36)	-14.21%	
Cemeteries	\$ 357,169.91	\$ 304,021.65	\$ (53,148.26)	-14.88%	
Wastewater	\$ 144,123.11	\$ 123,637.36	\$ (20,485.75)	-14.21%	
Total Investments	\$ 776,153.85	\$ 663,465.48	\$ (112,688.37)	-14.52%	
<b>Wastewater</b>					
Expenses	\$ 183,446.65	\$ 47,736.52	\$ (135,710.13)	-73.98%	
Revenue	\$ 174,181.10	\$ 56,482.02	\$ (117,699.08)	-67.57%	
NET	\$ 9,265.55	\$ (8,745.50)	\$ (18,011.05)	-194.39%	
<b>Wastewater Cash on Hand Balance</b>					
WW General Fund	\$ 138,894.09	\$ 233,814.97	\$ 94,920.88	68.34%	
<b>WW Accounts Receivable</b>					
	<b>30 Day</b>	<b>60 Day</b>	<b>90 Day</b>	<b>Over 120 Days</b>	
	\$ 88,238.73	\$ 11,540.12	\$ 3,640.12	\$ 44,216.45	
	TOTAL WW Accounts Receivable Jan 2009			\$ 147,635.42	-16.07%
	Accounts Receivable Jan 2008			\$ 175,911.20	

**JANUARY 2009  
DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT**

**Judy Mathiau  
Assessor**

- Developed a brochure to be mailed to new and existing businesses as part of a Select Board goal project. The brochure is a tri-fold with town contact information, web site resources and the basics for acquiring building permits and filing for property tax relief. These brochures will be mailed along with the annual spring business mailing for reporting equipment lists to the Assessor's Office. It will also be available at the Chamber of Commerce, town office lobby and accessible on the web site.
- Extracted a complete list of all taxable properties in Rockport at the Town Manager's request with the following results:

- Rockport resident taxable property value	\$580,064,500
- Maine resident, non-Rockport taxable value	\$ 77,946,000
- Non-Maine taxable value	\$290,790,300

TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE                      \$948,800,800

- Held a GIS workshop in the Richardson Room. Mike White of Dirigo Spatial taught a refresher on the basic terminology, layers of data and data storage. We will follow this training with a more advanced session in preparing map projects using the data we have. In attendance were the assessing, planning, public works, harbor master and town manager's offices.
- The Mid-Coast Assessors met in Rockland with 28 area assessors in attendance. Martin Cates, local realtor, spoke to us regarding the current market, the types of sales they are seeing and the activity they expect to see. He provided statewide statistics as well as local data. Of interest in Rockport during the 2008 calendar year:
  - 133 TOTAL LISTINGS - 47 SOLD, 3 PENDING, 83 STILL CURRENTLY LISTED
  - 45 OF THE SOLD PROPERTIES WERE SINGLE FAMILY WITH A MEDIAN SALE PRICE OF \$275,000
  - STATEWIDE SHOWS 9,768 SINGLE FAMILY SALES WITH A MEDIAN SALE PRICE OF \$180,000

In February, the Assessors will meet with the Property Tax Division staff and discuss our role as Assessors in this downward market. In Rockport, we have seen a sharp decline in the volume of sales; however we continue to maintain a 95% assessment ratio to sale price averages.

- Recertified most of the Current Use Parcels. To date, we have received two new Farm Land applications bringing our total enrollment to 25 parcels. Tree Growth total 12 parcels and Open Space has 27 enrolled. One parcel came out of Open Space due to development. Pending recertification are 4 tree growth parcels and 1 Farmland parcel, due to reporting requirements.
- Attended a BAR (Board of Assessment Review) Training at the Civic Center. Also in attendance were three of our five Board members and Kerry Leichtman, Assessor's Clerk. Sally Daggett and Bill Dale, attorneys with Jensen-Baird, taught the session which included the laws relating to appeals, conducting a meeting, preparing findings of facts and the proper application requirements.

TO: Robert Peabody, Jr., Rockport Town Manager & Board of Selectmen  
FROM: Sue Dates, Rental Agent  
RE: **Opera House Department Head Report**  
DATE: **January 2009**

During the month of January Bay Chamber rented the Opera House for Odeon rehearsals on some Mondays and Tuesdays and held lessons on Monday only. Mid Coast Chorus held a large concert on the Saturday of the big snow storm. We were all happy this was able to be done, as the following week would have been a logistical nightmare. The Knox County Democrats held a celebration dance on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. Revenue for January was \$745.00.

Town meetings held in the Opera House Meeting Room this month were the Select Board, the Planning Board, and the Zoning Board-2 meetings.

Maintenance this month included finishing the parquet floor in the meeting room and the tile floor in the entry. This project created a lot of extra work, especially, for Patrick. He has had to clean all the walls and woodwork of dust in the meeting room, entrance way, closets, front hall, and the kitchen. We still have one closet and several areas that were forgotten have dust on them. This will be a long process. Luckily, Odeon did not have many rehearsals as this was their start-up month. Patrick is doing the best he can to keep the new floor looking good. I would like to thank Floor Magic and the gentlemen who did such a good job of placing the tile and parquet. The small cork going up the floor is to help with the shifting of the building. For the Democrats Dance Patrick had to move almost all the chairs off the auditorium floor and they put up tables. It takes, approximately, 18 hours of time to do this for events that have tables. Due to the type of winter we have had, it has been difficult, if not impossible to keep the ice on the walkways down to a passable level. Much salt and sand has been placed. Again this year there has been much ice buildup on the exit stairway from the auditorium. As snow melts, it drips onto the stairs and can buildup ice as much as 3-5 inches in a 24 hour period. We are evaluating this serious situation. This year the Opera House was used for only 11 days. The remainder of the time we needed the time for cleanup and ice removal! As is now the practice, we are shutting off the large refrigerator and the gas stove, except when in use. This is has proven to be a money saver!

Last year the revenue was \$370.00. We had two Down East Singers concert – one was canceled due to a December storm – and the Community School rented the meeting room. The auditorium stage was sanded and sealed. This was a major project that took days to complete and clean up after. And the maroon was painted.

**Rockport Public Library Director's Report  
January 2009**

**Circulation\***

	<b>Children / YA</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>January 2009</b>	1275	3419	4694	- 7.9 %
<b>December 2008</b>	1575	3520	5095	

**Attendance\***

	<b>Children / YA</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>January 2009</b>	170	1853	2023	- 9.6 %
<b>January 2008</b>	239	1998	2237	

**Interlibrary Loans\***

	<b>January 2009</b>	<b>January 2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Incoming</b>	541	477	+ 13.4 %
<b>Outgoing</b>	336	247	+ 36 %

**Internet Usage\***

<b>January 2009</b>	<b>January 2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
237	317	- 25.2 %

**Reference\***

<b>January 2009</b>	<b>January 2008</b>	<b>% Change</b>
217	356	- 39 %

*\*We had 2 days in January (7<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup>) when the library closed early due to the storm. This has an impact on all of our numbers. Given the average daily in both circulation and attendance these would have been comparable to the same numbers reported this time last year.*

**Gifts and Grants**

The library received **\$3392.88** in desk income in January. Desk income includes donations, photocopy charges, fines, and non-resident card renewal fees.

**Programs & Community Outreach**

In total the library had 25 programs or community outreach activities during the month of January. There were 12 programs and community outreach activities for adults, and 13 programs and community outreach activities for children. 92 people attended the adult programs and 164 (33 adults and 131 children) attended the programs for children.

**Volunteers:** Volunteers gave 74.5 hours of support in January.

**Program highlights:**

- Twice weekly French conversation group.
- Weekly story time and craft
- Community outreach to Coastal Workshop
- Community outreach to the Teen Center
- Community outreach to local daycare centers
- After school read-aloud
- Artist Trading card workshop and swap
- BookLovers' Café
- Aldermere Farm story time and tour

TO: Robert Peabody, Jr., Rockport Town Manager & Board of Selectmen  
FROM: Steve Beveridge, Director **Public Works** Department  
RE: **Department Head Report**  
DATE: **January 2009**

1. Worked on: both of the '04 F550's were worked on – the #1 had a belt break and it took 2 or our men, plus a consultation with a Ford mechanic, to figure out how to put a new belt on and the #2 had a pump break and it took several repair attempts and 2 or 3 parts orders to get the correct pump for the truck – it took at least 2 men many hours over days to repair these trucks (at times both trucks were down at the same time); sanders repaired; '99 F550 brakes/front bumper/new hub & axle joints/brake lines to get it ready for inspection; '08 Freightliner serviced; '93 L8000 readied for possible sanding/plowing due to other truck problems; '99 readied for sanding due to other truck problems. Needless to say this month was a long month of difficult truck repairs
2. Plowed, sanded and/or salted several times both day and night during the month
3. Cleaned the wash by – painted the block wall
4. Cleaned and flushed drains in the garage
5. Spot sanded several times during the month- ice was a big problem due to cold weather
6. Finished the Public Works budget, the Parks & Rec budget, and the Opera House budget
7. Salted all sidewalks and pathways at least 4 times during the month & spot salted many times
8. Large snow storm on Sunday, Jan. 18. Aqua Maine recorded, approximately, 18.5 inches of snow plus about 1 inch of rain. This storm was one of the most difficult storms ever plowed by the crew. At one point the Oshkosh even plowed 17 and 90 due to the snow buildup. He was afraid he couldn't drive down the road. The crew did not dare to take a break during the major blowing because they weren't sure they would get back over some roads. This has been a tough month on the crew, vehicles, and roads.
9. Cleaned out around all Fire Hydrants
10. Pushed snow back after the storm to make room for the next storm
11. Changed cutting edges on wings and plows
12. Hauled snow from parking lots and a few places in the village
13. Opened catch basins at least 3 times during the month
14. Salt delivered 6 times during the month – we have approximately \$14,000 in the salt budget
15. Winter Sand delivered – 306 yards
16. Steve & Sue went to a "Kick-Off" meeting for FEMA December Disaster relief
17. Had a huge tree removed on Spear St. (4 feet in diameter or better)
18. Library – cleaned the roof repeated, put calcium on it and inspected it. Met with contractors for prices to fix the roof.

Last year during January we plowed, sanded, and salted more than this year. The salt budget was almost spent in January. We didn't have as much ice because the rain did not follow the storms. The end of the month was somewhat calm. We had to rebuild the Oshkosh plow and repair the Loader bucket, but did not have as many truck breakdowns as this year. A new garage door was placed on the old salt shed (storage shed) and the garage was cleaned more often. We assisted the CSD with the removal of a large electric motor & blower. Steve attended many meetings about projects going on in Town. Completed three budgets and Steve helped do the Cemetery budget.



# **Town of Rockport**

**Department Head Report**

**January, 2009**

**Nothing Significant to report this Month.**

**Craig Cooley  
EMA Director**

# ROCKPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## JANUARY, 2009

### OFFICER PRODUCTIVITY REPORT:

OFFICER:	# of Arrests:	Warnings:
201 / Chief Kelley	03	08
202/ Sgt. T. Ford	08	10
203/J.McCarthy	20	18
204/W. Butler	30	07
205/ D. Smith	12	06
211/ C.Cooley	31	12

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VEHICLE STATS:	Mileage:	Gals. of Gas.	M.P.G.
	7,828	474.3	16.5

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02/03/09  
09:08

Rockport Police Department  
Law Total Incident Report, by Nature of Incident

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1

Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
911 Hangup	10
Abandoned Vehicle	1
Administrative	10
Agency Assistance	13
Alarm	35
Animal Problem	7
Animal Welfare	1
Non-sufficient Funds Check	6
Burglary	1
Car/Deer 10-55	3
Check In Per Court Order	1
Citizen Assist	11
Citizen Dispute	1
Civil Problem	2
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	1
Criminal Mischief	2
Dead Body	1
Deliver Message	1
Detail Assignment	2
Disorderly Conduct	5
Controlled Substance Problem	3
Traffic - Erratic Oper Vehicle	16
Escort	2
Fingerprinting	1
Found Property	1
Fraud	1
Harassment	1
Hit and Run 10-55	1
Information Report	8
Intoxicated Person	2
Juvenile Problem	3
Lockout	1
Mental Health Issue	2
Miscellaneous CAD Call Record	1
Nuisance	2
DUI Alcohol or Drugs	3
Paperwork Servd For Othr Agenc	9
Parking Problem	13
Traffic Accident w/ Damage	16
Traffic Accident, w/ Injuries	3
Property Check	13
Public Works Referral	3
Radar Detail	2
Recovered Stolen Property	1
Sex Offense	1
Sex Offender Registration	2
Attempted Suicide	1
Suspicious Vehicle	2
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	5
Theft	4
Threatening	3
Traffic Hazard	7
Traffic Violation	68
Traffic Stop	2
Trespassing	5
Unconscious Person	1
Unsecure Premise	1
Utility Problem	3
Vehicle off roadway no damage	21
Vehicle Search	2
Wanted Person	5
Weapon Offense	1
Well-Being Chck	6

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Total Incidents for This Report: 362  
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02/03/09  
09:07

Rockport Police Department  
CAD Calls by Day and Time

Page: 111  
1

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00-00:59	0	2	2	2	1	2	2	11
01:00-01:59	0	1	2	1	1	0	4	9
02:00-02:59	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	6
03:00-03:59	1	1	3	1	1	0	2	9
04:00-04:59	3	1	2	0	0	0	2	8
05:00-05:59	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	4
06:00-06:59	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	5
07:00-07:59	2	2	0	0	3	1	0	8
08:00-08:59	1	3	2	4	3	5	1	19
09:00-09:59	4	3	4	2	5	4	1	23
10:00-10:59	1	0	4	2	5	2	3	17
11:00-11:59	3	1	6	7	5	3	5	30
12:00-12:59	0	2	0	5	4	0	2	13
13:00-13:59	0	4	2	4	3	2	4	19
14:00-14:59	6	3	4	4	7	4	1	29
15:00-15:59	5	5	3	4	6	3	1	27
16:00-16:59	3	3	3	2	4	6	2	23
17:00-17:59	2	3	4	5	5	5	3	27
18:00-18:59	1	2	1	3	5	0	2	14
19:00-19:59	2	0	1	1	4	1	1	10
20:00-20:59	2	5	3	3	1	0	1	15
21:00-21:59	4	2	3	3	0	2	1	15
22:00-22:59	1	1	2	0	3	1	1	9
23:00-23:59	1	1	0	1	4	3	2	12
Total by Day	45	45	56	56	71	46	43	362

Report Includes:

- All reported dates between `00:00:01 01/01/09` and `23:59:59 01/31/09`
- All nature of incidents
- All respond to addresses
- All respond to cities
- All agencies matching `0704`

\*\*\* End of Report /var/tmp/rptAAA.7ay.R-rpcdcdt.r1\_1 \*\*\*

## BRUCE WOODWARD, FIRE CHIEF

Two sewage back ups in the last six months at the public safety building which occurred in some original cast iron piping in the basement required a fix. The cast iron pipe was replaced with PVC pipe and we are hoping this will fix the problem.

A resident on Mystic Avenue called with a question about an LP gas odor in one room of her home. Her gas company had been there a couple of times and they could not find a problem. I responded with a spray bottle of soapy water and found a small leak under the gas stove which she had the gas company fix.

The first of the month we had the air brakes on Engine 22 malfunction and leak air intermittently. The Rockport Highway crew worked to find the cause of the leak from the air dryer. The air brake system would not always exhibit the same symptoms. The problem was finally found to be the governor for the air compressor system. They replaced the governor and rebuilt the air dryer.

I assisted a resident of West Street Extension one Saturday afternoon with smoke detectors that were sounding and there was no fire. The cause appeared to be with the back batteries.

We were called to the Samoset to consult with workers from an LP gas company who were dealing with a leak in some underground piping. The workers had the situation under control and had to burn off the gas with two flares since the valves did not isolate the leak. The process took several hours to complete and I went back in the evening to check on their progress.

### Report Period: 1/1/09-1/31/09 Comparables: 1/1/08-1/31/08

Calls by Incident Type	Percent of Total Calls 2008	Percent of Total Calls 2009	Total Incidents 2008	Total Incidents 2009
Building Fires	6.25%	0%	1	0
Vehicle Fires	0%	0%	0	0
Other Fires	0%	0%	0	0
Overpressure Ruptures, Explosion, Overheat	0%	0%	0	0
Emergency Medical Treatment	0%	0%	0	0
All Others	6.25%	0%	1	0
Hazardous Condition Calls	25%	41.67%	5	5
Service Calls	0%	0%	0	0
Good Intent Calls	25%	16.67%	5	2
Severe Weather or Natural Disaster Calls	0%	0%	0	0
Special Incident Calls	0%	0%	0	0
Unknown Incident Type	0%	0%	0	0
Malicious Calls	0%	0%	0	0
Other False Calls	37.5%	41.67%	6	5
Total Calls	100%	100%	18	12
Total Fire Dollar Loss	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Dollar Loss	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0