

MASON FIRE DEPARTMENT



2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Mason Fire Department responded to 164 incidents in 2006. This represents a decrease of 16 responses from 2005. Responses in the City of Mason increased 15; there was a decrease of 10 responses in Vevay Township, and a decrease of 13 responses in Aurelius Township. Mutual aid requests from neighboring departments decreased by 8.

2006 response numbers:

City of Mason	84
Vevay Township	48
Aurelius Township	12
Mutual Aid	<u>20</u>
Total	164

2005 response numbers:

City of Mason	69
Vevay Township	58
Aurelius Township	25
Mutual Aid	<u>28</u>
Total	180

The following is a breakdown of incidents and totals for 2006 compared to 2005:

City of Mason

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Structure fires	5	2
Vehicle fires	4	1
PI accidents	3	2
False alarms (alarm system, fires unable to locate, etc)	36	25
Carbon Monoxide alarms	2	3
Miscellaneous (wires down, fuel leaks, odor investigations, etc)	26	30
Fires other (rubbish, unauthorized & authorized burning, fires out upon arrival, etc)	7	6
Severe weather	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	84	69

In 2006, within the City of Mason, there were 59.5 actual hours spent at these 84 incidents, an increase of 18.8 hours from 2005. The property loss was approximately \$105,300 for all incidents, a decrease from \$255,700 in 2005. The property loss figure includes structures, contents, and vehicle losses. An average of 11 firefighters responded to these incidents, an increase from 10 in 2005. The average response time from tone to on scene was 5.88 minutes, a slight increase from 5.22 minutes in 2005.

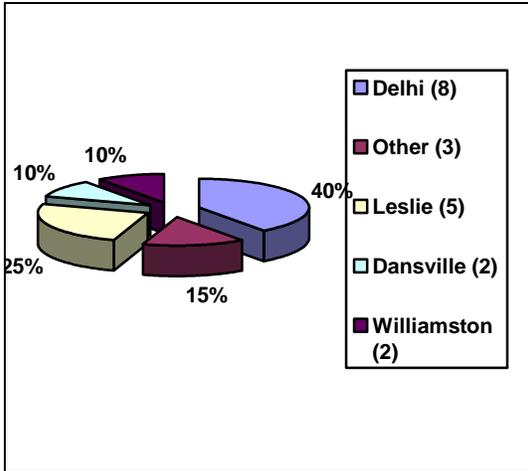
Aurelius Township	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Structure fires	0	2
Vehicle fires	1	0
PI accidents	1	3
False alarms (alarm systems, reported fires unable to locate, etc)	3	6
Carbon Monoxide alarms	0	3
Miscellaneous (wires down, fuel leaks, odor investigations, etc)	2	3
Fires other (rubbish, unauthorized & authorized burning, fires out upon arrival, etc)	4	3
Wild land, grass fires	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
Total	12	25

In 2006, within Aurelius Township, there were 11.2 actual hours spent at these 12 incidents, a decrease of 19 hours from 2005. There was no property loss reported in 2006. In 2005, the property loss was approximately \$48,200. An average of 11.6 firefighters responded to these incidents, a slight increase from 11.2 in 2005. The average response time from tone to on scene was 11.8 minutes, a slight increase from 9.9 minutes in 2005.

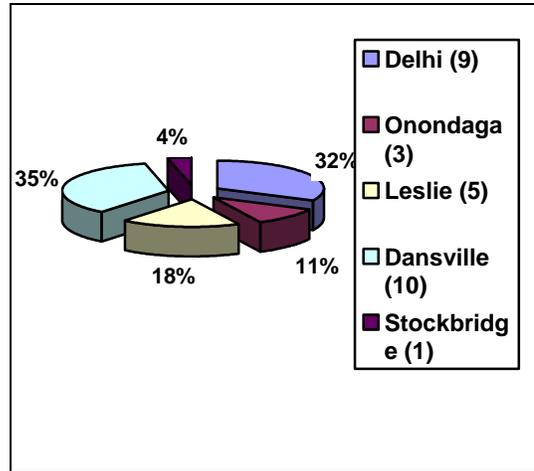
Vevay Township	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Structure fires	3	5
Vehicle fires	3	3
PI accidents	4	11
False alarms (alarm systems, reported fires unable to locate, etc)	13	18
Carbon Monoxide alarms	1	1
Miscellaneous (wires down, fuel leaks, odor investigations, etc)	15	5
Fires other (rubbish, unauthorized & authorized burning, fires out upon arrival, etc)	7	8
Wild land, grass fires	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
Total	48	58

In 2006, within Vevay Township, there were 53.3 actual hours spent at these 48 incidents. The property loss was approximately \$747,300 for all incidents, a significant decrease from \$1,522,700 in 2005. Note, one residential fire and one aircraft fire accounted for approximately \$681,500 of the total. These figures include structures, contents, and vehicle losses. An average of 11.3 firefighters responded to these incidents, a decrease from 12.7 in 2005. The average response time from tone to on scene was 8 minutes, a slight decrease from 8.7 minutes in 2005.

MUTUAL AID

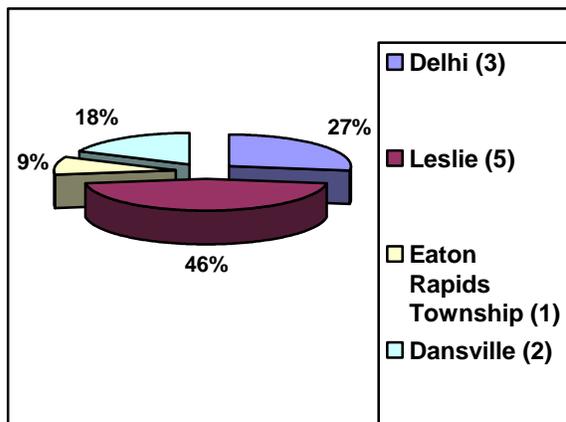


2006 Provided

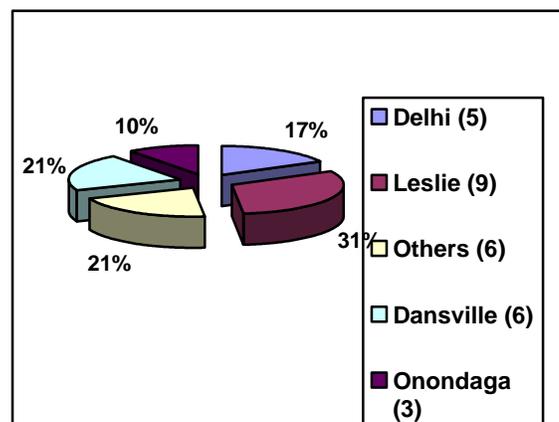


2005 Provided

Mutual aid is an ongoing part of fire ground operations and other incidents. Mutual aid has reduced property damage and firefighter injuries over the years and continues to be another tool that the incident commander may use. The “Others” category listed in the chart represents one response each to Meridian, Stockbridge, and Onondaga. In 2006, a total of 33.5 hours were spent helping our neighbors at these 20 incidents. This assistance is a decrease from 57.1 hours at 28 incidents in 2005.



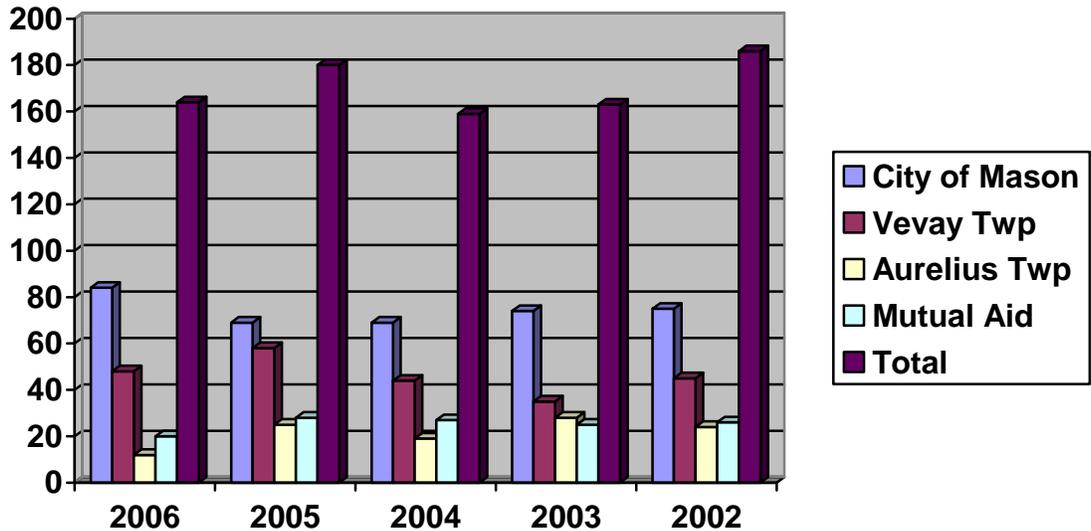
2006 Received



2005 Received

Mutual aid is exactly that. It is mutual between departments which provide as well as receive. In 2006, mutual aid was received 5 times, a decrease from 11 in 2005. Mutual aid department's assistance totaled approximately 31 hours at our incident scenes.

The following chart represents a five year average of responses.



Mason Fire Department Fire Analysis 2006

Date	Address	Type	Loss*
2/16/06	148 Linden St	Dwelling	\$45,000
3/3/06	768 Diamond Rd**	Out Building	\$27,000
3/27/06	702 S Barnes St	Out Building	\$20,000
4/14/06	321 Coventry Ln	Dwelling	\$1,500
4/28/06	1133 Lone Oak Dr**	Dwelling	\$410,000
5/29/06	122 Linden Ave	Dwelling	\$4,500
7/1/06	1366 Rolfe Rd**	Out Building	\$37,000
7/26/06	2325 Kipp Rd**	Aircraft	\$271,000
11/17/06	603 Peachtree Pl	Dwelling	\$24,500

* Loss includes Contents ** Vevay Township



On February 16, 2006, the Mason Fire Department responded to the first structure fire of the year at 148 Linden Street within the City of Mason. The fire started in a garage attached to a mobile home and quickly spread to the dwelling. The fire was attacked with two handlines: one to the garage and one into the living area. This fire was brought under control within 15 minutes. Heavy fire damage was sustained to the garage and kitchen areas with smoke and heat damage to the rest of the structure.



On April 28, 2006, the Mason Fire Department responded to the largest loss fire of the year at 1133 Lone Oak Drive in Vevay Township. Original notification was for a possible structure fire at this location. The homeowner stated there was smoke showing when she exited the dwelling to make the call at a neighbor's house. After the call, she looked back and observed heavy smoke showing and flames soon followed. While in route, the first responding fire unit observed the heavy smoke and immediately requested assistance from Dansville, Leslie, and Delhi Fire Departments.

Onondaga and Eaton Rapids Township Fire Departments were requested soon after the first apparatus was on scene. First fire crews simultaneously attacked the heavily involved garage and attic areas. The garage fire was under control shortly, but attempts to control the attic fire from the interior were unsuccessful due to the heavy fire conditions. Conditions inside deteriorated quickly and became too dangerous for the firefighters. The attack was shifted to a defensive operation. The engineered wood floor joist construction collapsed within 30 minutes after the arrival of the first apparatus. Fire investigators from the Michigan State Police and the insurance company were unable to determine the cause of this fire.



1366 Rolfe Road in Vevay Township was the scene of a structure fire on July 1, 2006. 911 dispatch center toned the fire department stating the structure was fully involved and explosions had occurred. Heavy smoke was visible from Mason, and before arrival at scene, Leslie and Dansville Fire Departments were requested for assistance. The first arriving apparatus confirmed that the building was totally engulfed and the roof had already collapsed. A

diesel tank was in close proximity to the building and the first water was directed on this tank to cool it to prevent a possible explosion. The fire was under control in approximately 20 minutes, but overhaul to reach pockets of fire under the collapsed metal roof took some time. The cause of this fire was determined to be a burning barrel too close to the structure.

Four passengers escaped with minor injuries when a small plane crashed on July 26, 2006. The plane was attempting to take off from the Mason Jewett Airport when a loss of power occurred. The plane crashed on the property of Aggregate Industries located at 2325 Kipp Road in Vevay Township. Prior to resting on the ground, the plane struck the office building roof, two parked trucks and brought down the main



electrical service to the facility. The plane also narrowly missed three fuel storage tanks on the ground. The occupants were out and the plane was fully involved with fire when the first apparatus arrived on scene less than five minutes after receiving the call.

**MASON FIRE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL ROSTER**

David Scutt, Chief (27yrs)

Kerry Minshall, Assistant Chief (26yrs)

Mark Howe, Captain (24yrs)

Michael Buckner, 1st Lieutenant (18yrs)

Stephen Armstrong, 2nd Lieutenant (32yrs)

Leon Clark, Firefighter (27yrs)

Dana Clifford, Firefighter (2yrs)

Andrue Combs, Firefighter (4yrs)

Justin Day, Firefighter (2yrs)

Scott Etzel, Firefighter (4yrs)

Steve Fehrenbach, Firefighter (1yr)

Dennis Howe, Firefighter (28yrs)

Jim Jones, Firefighter (19yrs)

Larry Martin, Firefighter (31yrs)

Art Moul, Firefighter (12yrs)

Scott Preadmore, Firefighter (2yrs)

Dave Reid, Firefighter (11yrs)

John Sabbadin, Firefighter (11yrs)

Debra Scutt, Firefighter (21yrs)

John Scutt, Firefighter (1yr)

Matt Wood, Firefighter (3yrs)

Norman Austin, Engineer (34yrs)

Jim Hays, Engineer (23yrs)

Don Gailey, Engineer (17yrs)

Dan Kennedy, Engineer (3yrs)

Leon Langridge, Engineer (22yrs)

Don Parsons, Engineer (28yrs)

Dennis Whipple, Engineer (43yrs)

Russ Whipple, Engineer (17yrs)

Jason Buckner, Trainee

Vaughn Vandecar, Trainee

Stan Jordan, Auxiliary

Larry Howe, Auxiliary

Personnel changes in 2006 included two firefighters, Jerry Adams and Paul Tuttle, leaving the department and the addition of two trainees, Jason Buckner and Vaughn Vandecar. Steve Fehrenbach and John Scutt were moved into firefighter positions after serving one year as trainees. The department still carries 31 personnel on the roster. The average seniority on the department is approximately 16.8 years. The Mason Fire Department is happy and privileged to have the wealth of knowledge and experience of our senior firefighters and engineers, but has a good mix of younger members to carry on the traditions of the department and service to the City of Mason.



During our annual Awards Ceremony held on December 9, 2006, Captain Mark Howe was named Firefighter of the Year. Mark joined the department in November of 1982 and has risen through the ranks to his current position. Mark is always willing to accept any assignment given to him and is willing to work hard for the success of the fire department and personnel. Mark exemplifies a model of commitment to the

volunteer to the fire service, is a respected member of the Mason Fire Department, and a respected citizen of the City of Mason.

We wish to acknowledge and congratulate Mark on this well deserved honor.

HIGHLIGHTS



Mason Cares

The fifth annual Mason Cares event was held on Monday, September 11. Thanks to Colleen Briggs, this special day continues to be very successful. The fire station is open for the citizens, school groups, civic organizations, and everyone else who wants to participate. Apparatus are washed, waxed, with tires and windows cleaned.

Additionally various projects around the station are completed. Donations of food, supplies, and money make this a self supporting event. Jeff Haueter from the Mason A & W always spends the entire day here and has served hundreds of hot dogs, chili dogs, gallons of root beer, and root beer floats over the last five years.

A memorial ceremony was held at the Ingham County Courthouse under the direction of Engineer Norm Austin at the end of the day. This solemn ceremony attended by emergency service personnel and citizens is a time to reflect and remember those who lost their lives on 9/11/2001.

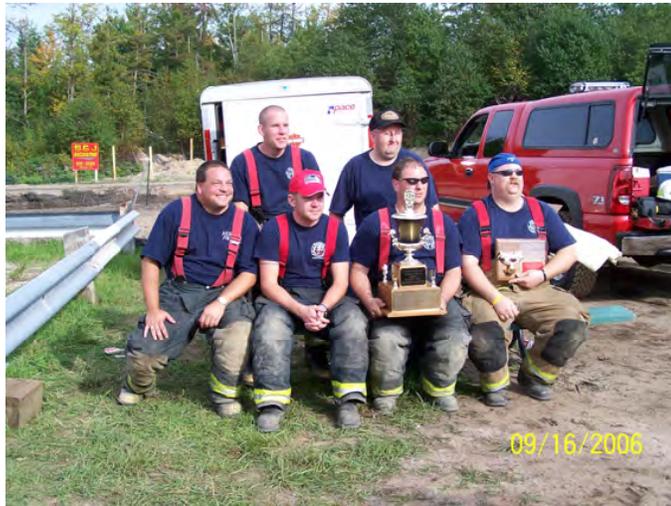


Training

Approximately 1,330 hours were spent training in 2006. These hours reflect only the training done at our regular every other Friday sessions. Additionally, approximately 550 hours were spent at other training done in the evenings or on the weekends around the county. Members of the department take training very seriously and this is shown in how we respond to and mitigate incidents.

First in State

After eight weeks of training, members of the Mason Fire Department placed first in the 2006 Michigan Firefighter's Memorial Vehicle Extrication Competition in Roscommon, September 16. The evolutions consisted of stabilizing a vehicle that was in a simulated motor vehicle accident, making contact with the simulated patient, removing all glass, removing all doors, lifting one side of the vehicle, and displacing the dash/steering wheel four inches. All procedures must be completed safely and within 20 minutes. This team consisting of (left to right) front row Scott Preadmore, Justin Day, John Sabbadin, and Andru Combs and back row John Scutt and Dan Kennedy. The team spent many hours preparing for this competition and the expertise is utilized on the vehicle accidents to which we respond.



Other annual programs that continue include: the Fire Prevention Open House which continues to draw huge crowds and kindergarten program, both in October, and the 4th of July fireworks program.

Many groups of school children, scout groups, and civic organizations come to tour the fire station through the year. They are shown the apparatus, equipment carried and what it is used for, personal protective equipment, and we always teach them about fire safety. Time spent doing these tours are appreciated by these groups.

In June the new County wide radio system went on line. The new system included all new infrastructure, radios, and pagers for every emergency service agency in Ingham County at a cost of approximately \$13,000,000. This project was funded by 911 monies. The new radio system gave the County a more reliable, robust, and interoperable system. Any agency in the County has the capability to communicate with anyone else be it police, fire, or EMS. The equipment that the Mason Fire Department received totaled approximately \$109,000. The annual fee to maintain the infrastructure is expected to cost approximately \$5,000 - \$7,000 per department.

APPARATUS



Tower 808 is a 5 year old 2001 Pierce Dash 100 foot platform. It is powered by a 500hp Cummings diesel, with a 2000 gallon per minute pump. This unit is first or second out for any structure fires. It has an AMPS 10k hydraulic generator, 300 gallon water tank, a full compliment of ground ladders, and 1,000 feet of large diameter supply line. The cab will hold 6 personnel and has air supplied to the platform.



Engine 809 is a 16 year old 1990 Grumman with a 1250 gallon per minute pump. This engine carries 1,000 gallons of water and 1,000 feet of large diameter supply line. This engine is the first or second out for any structure fire and vehicle fires during inclement weather. This engine has seating for 8 personnel in an enclosed cab. This unit also carries some extrication equipment to respond to vehicle accidents.



Engine 806 is a 22 year old 1984 Grumman with a 1000 gallon per minute pump and a 1,000 gallon water tank. This engine is the first out for vehicle and grass fires and third out for structure fires. We can carry 5 personnel, three in the open back and two in the cab.



Tanker 807 is a 22 year old 1984 3,000 gallon apparatus with a 500 gallon per minute pump on a Ford chassis. This tanker is housed at Station 2 on Curtis Street. It is the first tanker out when water is needed in the townships. This tanker is part of the Ingham County Tanker Task Force and will travel anywhere in Ingham County or the eastern part of Eaton County if needed.



Tanker 811 is a 23 year old 1983 International tractor with a 2,800 gallon 58 year old 1947 water tank. It carries a 650 gallon per minute pump driven by its own diesel engine. There has been a lot of hard work done over the years to this unit by our own members to make this former government fuel hauler into a water tanker. This is second tanker out for water supply in the townships. This tanker is housed at Station 2 on Curtis Street.



Brush 810 is a 13 year old 1993 Dodge four wheel drive pick-up with a 100 gallon water tank and a 9 gallon per minute pump. This unit is primarily used for brush/ wild land fires, and occasionally to transport personnel. Equipment carried includes portable water back packs, brooms, pitch forks, shovels, and a 5,000 lb winch and brush guard.



Squad 815 is a 14 year old 1992 Chevrolet 3500 with an ambulance type box. This unit transports specialty equipment used for surface ice rescue, extrication equipment, confined space rescue equipment, and extra air cylinders to be used at fire incidents. This unit responds to every working fire with extra personnel, is used at the scene for firefighter rehab, and responds first to any vehicle pin in accident.



The Command Vehicle is a 1999 Jeep. This was formerly a police vehicle and when it was retired, the fire department purchased it from the motor pool. This unit responds directly to the incident scene with Incident Command being established and directed out of this vehicle. This unit responding first gives the incident commander a few precious minutes to size up the situation and plan a course of action for the incident before apparatus arrives.



This 1973 apparatus has been in a reserved status since delivery of Tower 808 and has seen little use. A hydraulic leak in the cylinder that extends the ladder was discovered in October. After contacting the repair company it was found that repairs would cost between \$2,500 and \$8,000 depending on the severity of work necessary. It was decided that in the best interest of the City not to expend more money into this apparatus.

The Leslie Fire Department had previously expressed an interest in owning this vehicle and was contacted. They agreed they would take possession of it, as is, for the sum of \$1 and initiate the repairs needed to put it back in service. Even though the City of Mason no longer owns Ladder 818, it is only a call away if needed.

Annual service was performed on all apparatus consisting of: oil change and filters, fuel filters, changing pump oil, checking rear axle fluid, power steering fluid, clevis pins, batteries, and primer oil. The annual DOT inspection that consists of checking brakes, couplers, exhaust system, all lighting, cab and body, steering, fuel systems, suspension, frame, tires, wheels, and rims. Total cost \$2,600.

During the DOT inspection, our primary response vehicle Engine 809, was found to be in need of serious brake repair. The rotors and linings did not meet DOT specifications. While working on the brakes, the rear springs were found to be in need of replacement. The springs might be good for another year, but it was decided to replace them while Engine 809 was in the shop and not take a chance on when they might fail. Total cost of the brakes and springs was \$5,600.

During the same DOT inspection, a rear wheel seal leak was discovered on Tower 808. Repair on the wheel seal and replacement of the ruined brake shoe was \$525. During the pumping operation Tower 808, in coming water was constantly over riding the pressure relief valve and dumping water on the ground. The water on the ground was inconvenient, but more importantly, was wasting enough water that the pump was not able to be utilized to capacity. Cost of rebuilding the valve \$550.

Annual aerial and ground ladder testing was completed, \$625. Only Tower 808's aerial ladder was tested and certified, Ladder 818 was out of service. All ground ladders passed and were certified.

Annual pump tests were performed. Certification was received with no deficiencies found for Tower 808 @ \$250, Tanker 807 @ \$180, Engine 809 @ \$225, and Engine 806 @ \$180.

Engine 806 developed a major coolant system leak in September. The radiator was removed and re-cored, new hoses and various coolant system parts were replaced @ \$1,496.

The Command Vehicle required new brakes this year @ \$316

The water tank in Tanker 807 had continual and severe rust and leaking problems over the years. In June, a new tank was manufactured and installed @ \$17,170. This much needed tank replacement will keep this apparatus in service for years to come.

In 2006 the Mason City Council approved the purchase of a tanker to replace Tanker 811. This unit is powered by a 1983 International tractor and the water tank is vintage 1947. A committee was formed and headed by Assistant Chief Minshall with the other members consisting of Engineers Norm Austin and Don Gailey and Firefighters Larry Martin and John Sabbadin to establish specifications needed to best suit the requirements of the City and Townships.

More than 500 man hours were spent on specifications, with traveling to various fire departments, manufactures, and reviewing bids. The contract was awarded to a Michigan company HME with arrival anticipated in May 2007.

In conclusion, the age and condition of the apparatus continues to be a concern. All apparatus must be maintained in a safe and reliable condition. The replacement of Tanker 811 is a step in the right direction. In the near future, the Command Vehicle will have to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$35,000. Next, the 22 year old Engine 806 will need to be replaced at approximately \$400,000.

RETROSPECT

I am very honored and privileged to be the Fire Chief of the Mason Fire Department. This department is composed of an outstanding and talented officer staff. In addition, the department is extremely fortunate to have 32 dedicated and well-trained firefighters who give so much to their community. The skills and abilities of these firefighters are second to none.

The future of the Mason Fire Department will continue to be challenging, exciting, and rewarding.

A special thanks to the families of our firefighters, the Mason City Council, Administrator Martin Colburn, and all the City departments heads and employees for their help and support again this year.

Respectfully submitted, February 19, 2007

Chief David E. Scutt