



Rural Municipality of West River Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting No	2024-22	Time	7:00 PM
Session	Regular - Public	Date	Thursday, December 19, 2024
Chair	Helen Smith-MacPhail - Mayor	Location	Afton Community Centre
Adoption status	Approved	Contact Person	Susan Morse - CAO
Attendance	Mayor Helen Smith-MacPhail, Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur, Councillor Aaron MacEachern, Councillor John Yeo, Councillor Lillian MacCannell, Councillor Steve Pollard, Susan Morse – CAO, Ehi Itua – Administrative Assistant, Cody MacDonald – Community Services Manager.		
Regret	Nil		
Guest	Chief Anson Grant & Kevin Bernard – North River Fire Department		

- **Call to Order**

Mayor Helen Smith-MacPhail called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

- **Adoption & Approval of Agenda**

The following items were added to the agenda by Mayor Helen Smith-MacPhail

- **Information Items – 7.4 - Litter Cam, 7.5 – EMO Update**

The following item was added to the agenda by Councillor John Yeo

- **In Camera Item – 9.3 - Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act Section 119(1)d**

The agenda was approved as circulated, including the added items. It was moved by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur, seconded by Councillor Lillian MacCannell, and unanimously carried.

- **Land Acknowledgment**

Mayor Helen Smith-MacPhail gave an land acknowledgement.

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

- **Delegations & Public Input**

Mayor Helen Smith-MacPhail invited members of the audience to address the Council.

Mr. Daniel Sud spoke regarding the need for a noise bylaw in the municipality. Last week construction noise near his home started at 6 AM and construction workers' vehicles were parked in such a way to impede a school bus stop. The bus driver had to get off the bus and ask the workers to move their vehicles.

Council suggested that the CAO could place a phone call to the landowner/developer to advise them that there had been a noise concern.

Ms. Sarah Outram spoke regarding her interest in hearing about the litter cam agenda item.

Councillor Lillian MacCannell requested to provide an update regarding this agenda item. Mayor Helen Smith MacPhail directed Councillor MacCannell to do so.

- **WRC.2024.22.14 – Litter Cam**

Decision Type: Information

Status: Received

Background:

A sign has been placed at the corner of Rte 19 & 19A indicating there is a litter camera installed.

Description:

Councillor MacCannell informed Council that she had been contacted through the Women's Institute to be interviewed regarding the litter situation in the community and through that became aware of a group called "Island Beautiful". The group is responsible for placing the road sign. They are a group of residents who are actively working to clean up litter along roads in the community and are trying to find solutions for decreasing littering. The group has purchased cameras but Councillor MacCannell is unable to confirm if cameras are

installed or footage is being collected. The sign is going to be removed by the group. The group needs vests, gloves and some other supplies for clean-up.

The Council directed Councillor MacCannell to inform the group that they could apply for a grant request from the Municipality if they want to request the municipality provide their supplies.

- **Adoption of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

The minutes of November 28, 2024, Council Meeting were approved as circulated. It was moved by Councillor John Yeo, seconded by Councillor Steve Pollard and unanimously carried.

- **Discussion Items**

- **WRC.2024.22.1 – Bonshaw Community Centre – Long Term Rental Request**

Decision Type: Action

Status: Referred

Background:

Staff have received a request for a long-term rental of the “Games Room” at Bonshaw Community Centre. To date it has not been used as a game room by anyone, however it was envisioned to be a recreation space for youth to play ping pong as there is a ping pong table there.

Description:

The Community Services Manager provided information regarding this rental request. The proposed tenant will need to install mats on the floor and walls and has proposed a schedule where the room would be used daily, attached here to forming a part of these minutes. Given these circumstances the room won't be available to be used as a games room.

Staff have made arrangements for an hourly rental rate for December until a decision & agreement regarding long-term rental can be made.

Council discussed the need for a detailed rental contract that addresses damages, Municipal EMO needs, Elections Canada Rental Agreement and other such details.

Council referred this item to the Interim Community Services Committee to make recommendations regarding this request including but not limited to rental rate.

- **WRC.2024.22.2** – Solar Panel RFP Afton Community Centre – Hiring Contractor

Decision Type: Action

Status: Deferred (5-0)

Background:

WRC.2024.21.1

Description:

The Council reviewed the RFPs. Councillor Steve Pollard noted that he had confirmed the panels in the RFPs are not known to have defects. Council was not able to agree on a provider. Councillor John Yeo motioned to defer this decision, seconded by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur and unanimously carried. Mayor Smith MacPhail directed the Council to investigate this matter so they can make a decision at the next meeting.

- **WRC.2024.22.3** – Solar Panel RFP Bonshaw Community Centre – Hiring Contractor

Decision Type: Action

Status: Deferred (5-0)

Background:

WRC.2024.21.2

Description:

Councillor John Yeo, moved to defer this item for the same reasons noted above regarding Solar Panels at Afton Community Centre, seconded by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur and unanimously carried.

- **Cody MacDonald left the meeting.**

- **Discussion Items Continued**

- **WRC.2024.22.4 – Awarding Grant – Bonshaw Women’s Institute**

Decision Type: Action

Status: Motion Carried (5-0)

Background:

The Bonshaw WI has requested waive the rental fee for the Bonshaw Community Centre on January 25th to hold a Community Tea. Staff have completed the Evaluation Checklist and recommended that Council approve the request.

Description: Motion 2024-87

Moved by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur, and **Seconded by** Councillor John Yeo

WHEREAS

Pursuant to Municipal Grant Bylaw #2022-02, the Council reviewed the grant request application and completed Schedule C for The Bonshaw Women’s Institute,

BE IT RESOLVED

The Council for the Rural Municipality of West River approves an in-kind donation to waive the rental cost of the Bonshaw Community Centre for Bonshaw Women’s Institute to hold a Community Tea on Saturday January 25, 2025 and authorizes the CAO to execute it. Any activations of the EMO/Emergency Reception Centre take precedence over this waiver.

- **WRC.2024.22.5 - Awarding Grant – Scouts Canada**

Decision Type: Action

Status: Motion Carried (5-0)

Background:

Scouts Canada has requested waive the rental fee for the Bonshaw Community Centre to hold a weekend youth camp. Staff have completed the Evaluation Checklist and recommended that Council approve the request.

Description: Motion 2024-88

Moved by Councillor John Yeo, and **Seconded by** Councillor Aaron MacEachern

WHEREAS

Pursuant to Municipal Grant Bylaw #2022-02, Council reviewed the grant request application and completed Schedule C for Scouts Canada

BE IT RESOLVED

The Council for the Rural Municipality of West River approves an in-kind donation to waive the rental cost of the Bonshaw Community Centre for Scouts Canada to hold a weekend youth camp January 17-19th, 2025 and authorizes the CAO to execute it. Any activations of the EMO/Emergency Reception Centre take precedence over this waiver.

- **WRC.2024.22.6** - Awarding Grant – Bluefield Student

Decision Type: Action

Status: Motion Carried (5-0)

Background:

RMWR has received a grant request from students of the Global Issues class at Bluefield Senior High School to waive the rental fee for the Afton Community Centre to hold a benefit concert and art show. Staff have completed the Evaluation Checklist and recommended that Council approve the request.

Description: Motion 2024-89

Moved by Councillor Aaron MacEachern, and **Seconded by** Councillor Steve Pollard

WHEREAS

RMWR has received a grant request to waive the rental fee for the Afton Community Centre from Olivia Kelly & Erin Desbarat, students of the Global Issues class at Bluefield Senior High School, to hold a benefit concert and art show, and,

WHEREAS

Pursuant to Municipal Grant Bylaw #2022-02, the Council reviewed the grant request application and completed Schedule C,

BE IT RESOLVED

The Council for the Rural Municipality of West River approves an in-kind donation to waive the rental cost of the Afton Community Centre for the students to host a benefit concert and art show in support of the South Shore Food Bank and authorizes the CAO to execute it. Any activations of the EMO/Emergency Reception Centre take precedence over this waiver.

- **WRC.2024.22.7 – Holiday Lights Contest**

Decision Type: Action

Status: Motion Carried (5-0)

Description:

The CAO presented a list of the homes that have been nominated for the Holiday Lights Contest. Council will be asked to make a final decision on the winners for each ward on Monday December 23rd. Mayor Smith MacPhail reminded Council to visit the homes in their wards.

- **Motion to Change Agenda Order**

Chief Anson Grant and Kevin Bernard from the North River Fire Department (NRFD) arrived to give Council a presentation.

Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur, motioned to have the presentation before the Information Items. Seconded by Councillor Lillian MacCannell and unanimously carried.

- **Presentation - WRC.2024.22.11**

Chief Anson Grant and Kevin Bernard gave a presentation regarding NRFD statistics including call types, calls per community and fire fighter hours as per the 2023 Secretary's Annual Report, attached here to forming a part of these minutes.

Mayor Smith-MacPhail thanked Chief Grant and Mr. Bernard for their time and service and informed them that the Municipality would be happy to work together in the future for the development of infrastructure such as high capacity wells or dry hydrants.

- **Motion to Extend the Meeting**

At 8:30 PM Councillor Steve Pollard, motioned to extend the meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur and unanimously carried.

- **Information Items**

- **WRC.2024.22.8 – By-Election Report**

Decision Type: Information

Status: Received

Description:

Daniel Sud will be sworn in as Councillor for Ward 2 after Declaration Day which is December 30th, 2024.

- **WRC.2024.22.9 – Invitation from Meals on Wheels**

Decision Type: Information

Status: Received

Description:

The Cornwall & Area Meals on Wheels invites the Mayor and any other members of council and staff to attend a time of fellowship and light refreshments on Jan. 10th 2:30-3:30 at West River United Church. Please RSVP to 902-675-2970

Meals on Wheels Cornwall & area has been successfully running since October of 2023.

Councillor John Yeo or Councillor Lillian MacCannell hope to be able to attend the reception. The CAO will attend.

- **WRC.2024.22.10 – CCBF Application Status**

Decision Type: Information

Status: Received

Description:

The CAO informed Council that the CCBF applications have been approved.

- **WRC.2024.22.15 – EMO Information**

Decision Type: Information

Status: Received

Description:

Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur asked that the CAO post on the Municipal Facebook page & the Afton Sign regarding the storm that is forecasted for this upcoming weekend.

- **Meeting Closed**

At 9:20 PM Councillor John Yeo, motioned for the meeting to be closed. It was seconded by Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur and unanimously carried.

- **In Camera Items**

- **WRC.24.22.12** - Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act Section 119(1)f
- **WRC.24.22.13** - Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act Section 119(1)d
- **WRC.24.22.16** - Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act Section 119(1)d

- **Meeting Opened**

At 9:40 PM Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur, motioned for the meeting to be opened. It was seconded by Councillor Aaron MacEachern and unanimously carried.

- **Adjournment**

- Deputy Mayor Shaun MacArthur to adjourn the meeting at 9:40PM.

Helen Smith-MacPhail

Susan Morse

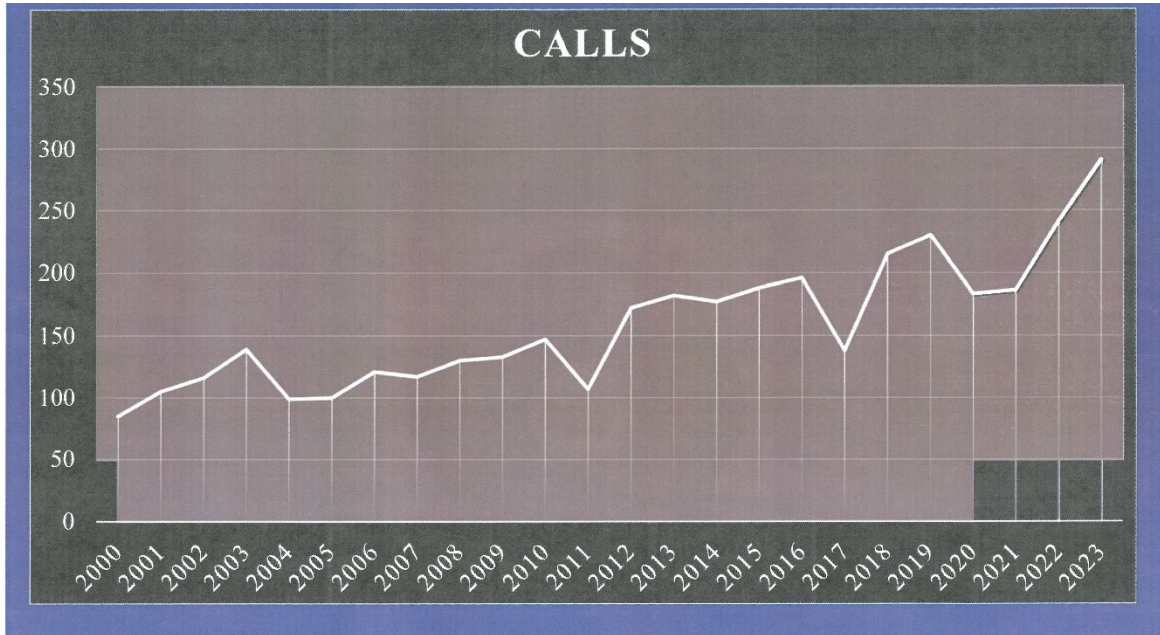
Mayor _____

Chief Administrative Officer _____

APPENDIX 1



2023
NORTH RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

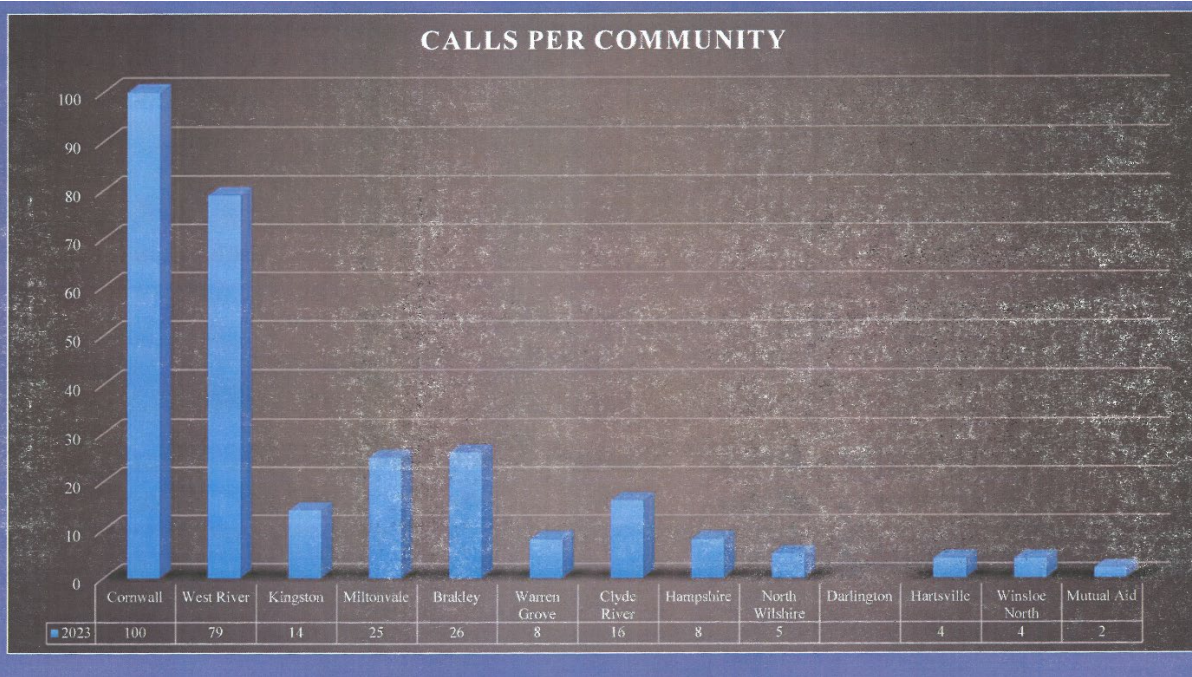


APPENDIX 1 Continued

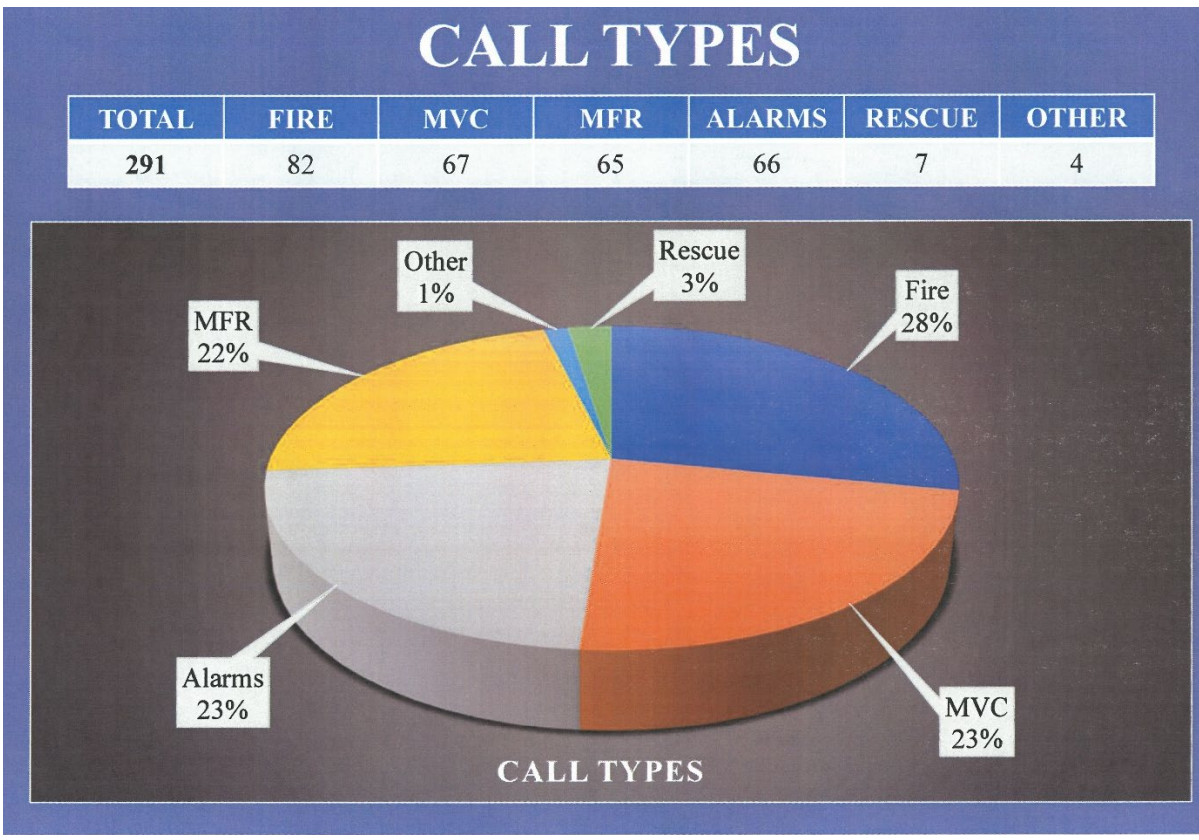
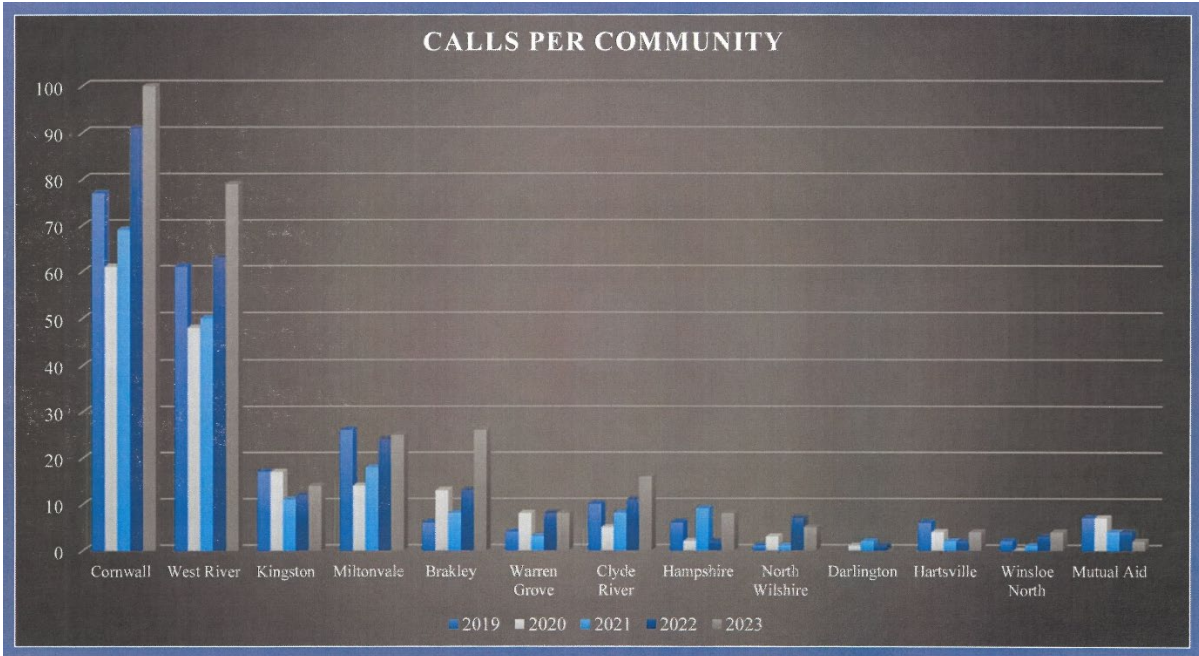
	MEETINGS	TRAINING	WORK NIGHT	SUNDAY DUTY CREW	FIRE CALLS	TOTAL
TOTAL HOURS	1,868 hrs.	2,216 hrs.	892 hrs.	1,185 hrs.	7991 hrs.	14,152 hrs.
AVERAGE PER MEMBER	55 hrs. each	65 hrs. each	26 hrs. each	35 hrs. each	235 hrs. each	416 hrs. each

	DAYTIME (M-F)	OVERNIGHT	EVENING/ WEEKENDS	OVERALL
AVERAGE RESPONDERS PER CALL	21	21	24	22
LOWEST RESPONDERS	12	12	17	

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
DAYTIME CALLS (MON. - FRI.)	88	69	70	91	113
PERCENTAGE OF CALL VOLUME	38%	38%	38%	38%	39%

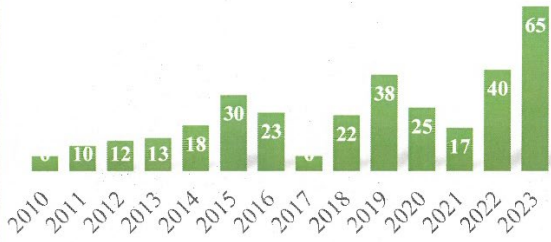


APPENDIX 1 Continued

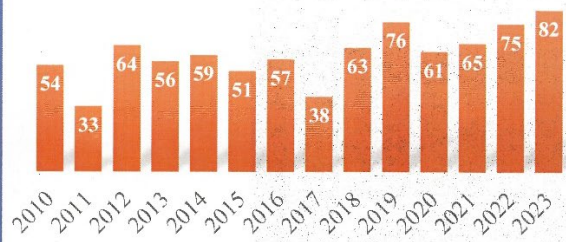


APPENDIX 1 Continued

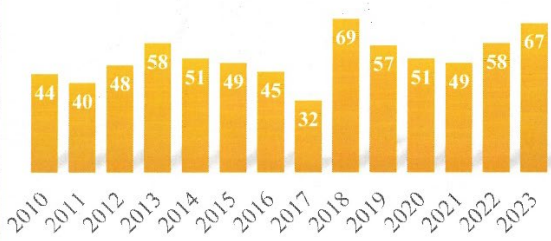
MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER



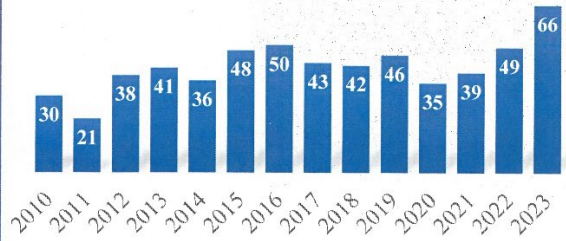
FIRE RELATED



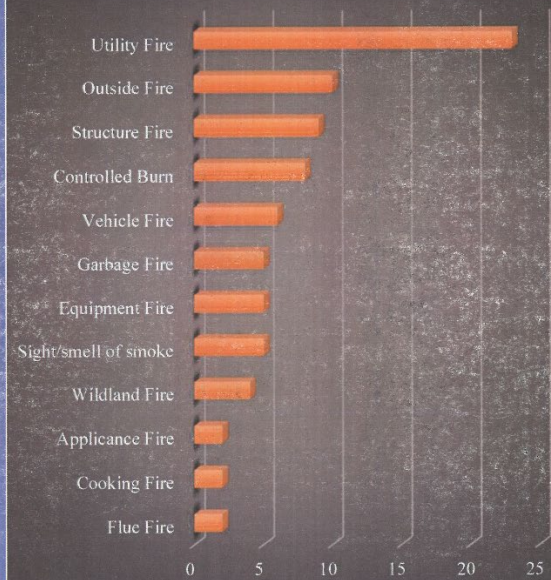
MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS



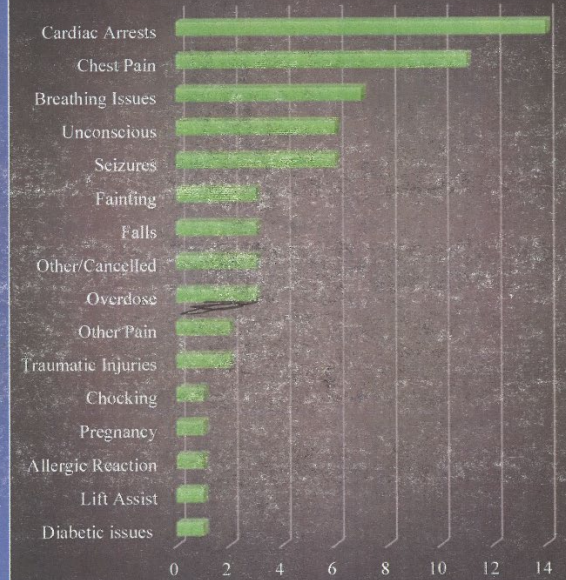
ALARMS



FIRE CALL TYPES



MFR CALL TYPES



APPENDIX 1 Continued

