

# AYER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Chief

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## MONTHLY REPORT SELECTMEN FIRE DEPARTMENT DECEMBER 2012

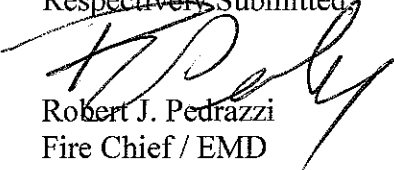
December 5<sup>th</sup> the Massachusetts State Fire Academy conducted an awareness training class at the fire station on the effects of hydrogen cyanide on firefighters. Hydrogen cyanide is one of the gasses that is released during combustion and is present in the air during the overhaul phase of fire. Recent research has shown that elevated levels of hydrogen cyanide can cause heart arrhythmias, leading to heart attack. This program was designed to bring awareness to the fact that healthy people can suffer a heart attack from the effects of hydrogen cyanide poisoning. Ayer Fire has recently purchased two meters to detect elevated levels of this poisonous gas.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy offers classes to municipal fire departments.. These classes include instructors, media and props and are highly professional. Ayer has taken advantage of many of these classes over the years to augment the in house training that we regularly conduct. In addition to these classes that are delivered on a local level the academy located in Stow provides courses onsite to Massachusetts Firefighters. They offer a recruit program for fulltime and call firefighters. Ayer has two call firefighters slated to attend the next offering of the Call / Volunteer academy, class #43 starting January 19<sup>th</sup> and ending June 20 with a graduation at the Fire Academy. These classes are held at night Tuesdays and Thursdays and two weekend days per month. These classes are run paramilitary and teach all the basic firefighting skills. Class length is 320 hours and the students will take a national certification test for Firefighter I/II at the end of the class. This is a great cost benefit to the Town as all these classes are offered at no cost.

Ambulance Runs December - 113  
Fire Calls December - 64

Ambulance Receipts December \$21,720.93  
Permit fees December \$905.00

Respectively Submitted:

  
Robert J. Pedrazzi  
Fire Chief / EMD

