Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company Inc.

1, 3, & 5 Year Action Plan

Goals Accomplished 2005-2011

- **Insure every firefighter goes home**
  - Increased NY State Certified Firefighters Level 1 (FF1) NFPA compliance.
    - 2005 – five (5) firefighters certified.
    - 2011 – Twenty-six (26) firefighters certified.
  - Three new firefighters currently taking Firefighter 1 class in Luzerne, NY.
  - Eighteen (18) new members joined WVFC in 2011.
  - Upgraded training requirements in by-laws for fire officer qualifications.
  - Classification of all firefighters by training / ability. Class A, B, C, D.
  - Insure every Class A interior firefighter is trained at FF1 level or above.
  - Insure each fire officer conducts on-scene risk assessment.
  - Provide a disciplined and safe work environment at all alarms and training.
  - Provide a Safety Officer to oversee suppression operations & training.
  - Fire Instructors - State Certified - two (2) Level 1 and one (1) Level 1 & 2.
  - Fire Investigators - State Certified - three (3) Level 1.
  - Provide periodic physicals for members as required by OSHA standard.
  - Develop passion for firefighting amongst fire company members.
    - Make sure it stays “FUN”!

- **Established EMS First Response Team. (Special Operations).**
  - CFR training slated for January 2012.
  - EMT training slated for early 2012.
  - **Whitehall First Responders** in service - November 15, 2011.

- **Acquired new Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).**
  - Purchased gear washers (2) to care for turnout gear.
  - New cold water immersion suits (3) to replace damaged suits.

- **Maintain sound financial position to accomplish objectives.**
  - Financial procedures established. SOP Section 28.
  - Financial Secretary hired to manage accounts, file 990’s.
  - Fiscal transparency. Financial statement posted each month in station.

- **Insure a high profile in community - positive public image of WVFC**
  - **Whitehall Central Schools**
    - Annual fire prevention programs presented every October
    - **Play Day** - we provide sno-cones, cotton candy every June.
    - **Fun & Fitness Fair** every May. Fire prevention theme stressed.
    - Prom - Annual accident victim extrication demonstration.
  - **“Fully Involved”** - Annual newsletter available through website.
  - **Member - Whitehall Chamber of Commerce.**
    - **Whitehall Winter Carnival** participant, Ice water rescue demonstration
    - **Free Fall Festival** participant, fire prevention education
Partner - Whitehall Food Pantry.
- Firehouse is an official collection point for non-perishable donations.
- Project 3-Square, the fire company’s hunger prevention initiative.

Partner - Whitehall American Legion Post 83
- Toys for Tots program held at firehouse each December.
- Memorial Day Parade - annual march & photo in full dress uniform.

Operation Santa Claus in December. Santa Arrives by fire truck, 12/18.

Our Lady of Hope - Blue Mass for 9/11 annual memorial service.
- Firefighter Recognition Awards presented for Broadway fire.
- Whitehall Times - weekly press releases on events, training, alarms, etc.

Website is fully interactive, (www.WhitehallFire.org)
- Provides in-service training to firefighters for self-study.
- Public fire education available for adults and children.
- Standard Operating Procedures, By-Laws and applications posted.
- General local interest, photo gallery and event notification.

Grants totaling over $ 300,000 to offset equipment costs to taxpayers.
- Communications – mobiles, portables, pagers, cross-band repeaters.
- New vehicles – 2008 Peterbilt tandem axle w/ 3000 gallon tanker,
- 2007 Rivercraft rescue airboat for ice water rescue team.
- SCBA air packs 12 total placed in service.
- Carbon fiber SCBA bottles 24 total placed in service.
- Wildland/Vehicle Extrication 11 sets PPE (coveralls) through DEC grant.
- Wildland/brush fire tools through DEC grant. (rakes, brooms, spades etc.)
- New gear lockers, total of 30 installed in apparatus bay for PPE.
- Smart Board® added in classroom. New, updated lesson plans.

Firehouse - 2011
- Automatic-on lighting in apparatus bays – to reduce FF response injuries
- Fire training provided a minimum of two nights per month.
  - Basic firefighter courses and OSHA refresher courses.
  - Motor Vehicle Extrication
  - Specialized rescue including Ice Water, (Special Operations)
- Training simulators built for local and state training courses:
  - Window bail-out unit (portable).
  - Wall breach unit (portable).
  - SCBA mask confidence course in basement of old station.
- WVFC hosted State and County Training classes:
  - Firefighter level 1 (FF1) class (3x’s). Request in for another FF1.
  - Firefighter level 2 (FF2).
  - Hazards Material Flammable Liquids Class.
  - Chemical Suicide (2x’s)
  - Air Ambulance Flight Training (3x’s).
  - Ice Water Rescue with West Fort Ann team.
- First annual Open House/Recruitment Drive on April 10, 2011.
- Renovations:
  - Spray foam insulation to R- 31 in main hall completed.
- Sheetrock of classroom ceiling in progress.
- Bay/entry doors paint completed.
- Truck bays painted in new station.
- Remodeled foyer area.
- New tile floor and sink installed in utility room.
- Installed shelves in hose tower for organized storage.
- Ramps replaced for easier access.

- **Apparatus – goal: eliminate single purpose vehicles to reduce fleet.**
  - New 2010 engine-rescue with extrication equipment.
  - New 2008 engine-tanker with 1000 gpm pump/3000 gallon tank.
  - New brush vehicle being specified for bid at this time
  - Rescue jacks purchased through coin drops in 2010, $11,000.
  - Chief’s car provided for firefighters to attend training. (old sheriff car)
    - Since 2009, over 8,000 miles per year are saved on firefighters personally owned vehicles.
    - Maintained by 2% insurance money. No taxpayer money used.
  - Maintenance of current fleet – all units inspected every first Tuesday.

- **Liquidation of surplus apparatus (3) in 2011.**
  - Engine 481 - 1991 Pierce. Replaced with Engine-Rescue
  - Engine 482 - 1999 International/Pierce sold in 2010.
  - Brush 486 - 1967 Jeep. Replaced with vehicle to be specified.

**One Year Goals**

- Continue with firefighter officer development.
  - State fire classes for line officer development
  - Fire officer - level 1, certification for Chief Officers.
- Host additional NYS training for FF1 and FF2.
- Insure all Class A, and most Class B, & C firefighters are trained in motor vehicle extrication.
- Work with village to mark hydrant locations on road, and caps w/ fire flows.
- Grants - Additional $ 250,000 applied for through FEMA for 2012:
  - Re-chassis 1988 rescue truck w/ F-550 4x4 crew cab $ 76,000
  - Mobile live-fire trainer $ 180,000
- Rehabilitate Old Fire Station for 100th anniversary -1913-2013.
  - Repair tin ceiling
  - Refinish bay doors to resemble original multi-pane doors
  - Replace main door to period appropriate style.
  - Reinstall transom window over entry door. Remove brick.
- Establish working annual budget without incessant revenue shortfalls.
  - Seeking full funding by local governments.
  - Establishment of a town/village Joint Fire District.
  - Federal income tax to be filed annually to maintain 503(c) status.
  - Independent audit to be conducted annually. Quarterly internal audits.
- Maintain sound financial position to accomplish objectives through fiscal year.
- Insure radio systems are all P-25 compliant, and Narrow-Banding Completed.
  - Narrow band transition federally mandated to be completed by August 2012.
Insure every interior team has a working fireground radio for routine and mayday transmissions.
Insure sector officers are radio equipped and assigned each alarm.
Continue training on Cross-band repeater system for interior operations.

- Firehouse
  - Fully WiFi enabled.
  - Central database on one main computer, with programs available to classroom and individual personal laptops. (controlled access)
  - Add intercom function to existing firehouse PA system.
  - High band “alert” frequency notification provided through PA system.
  - Acquire a stair-chair to facilitate access to second floor.
  - Record keeping
    - Re-work filing system in office to chronological order.
    - Archive old records.

**Three Year Goals**

- Maintain sound financial position to accomplish objectives through fiscal year.
- Continue with firefighter officer development.
  - State fire classes for line officer development
  - Fire Officer – State Certification to be acquired:
    - Level 1 for Captains, Lieutenants.
    - Level 2 for Chief Officers
- Host additional NYS training in Whitehall for:
  - Firefighter Level 1 Certification (FF1).
  - Firefighter Level 2 Certification (FF2).
  - Swift Water Rescue.
  - Confined Space Rescue.
  - FF Safety and Survival.
  - Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).
- Replace 1985 Tanker 484 with new engine-tanker (NFPA Class A engine).
  - Provide a larger capacity pump 1250+ gpm, (replace 490 gpm pump).
  - Poly body, roll-up doors, 2,000 gallon wet-side tanker w/ portable pump.
  - Commercial chassis, single axle for lower cost.
  - Equip with hosebed for large diameter hose (LDH) for water supply in addition to providing mobile water supply.
  - NFPA Ladder package, crosslays for attack lines & master stream device.
  - Able to satisfy all mutual aid obligations without affecting local response.
- Establish Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) for firefighter rescue.
- Mobile Data Terminal - apparatus based database on PC:
  - Pre-plans specific for individual properties.
  - Haz-mat fixed placement site identified.
  - Fire reports, incident reports, CO alarms, etc,
  - Internet connectivity.
- Establish Technical Rescue Team – (Special Operations)
  - Wildland search & rescue.
  - Low angle rescue.
o Swift water rescue.
o Trench/structural collapse.
o Possible confined space rescue, contingent on additional funding.

**Five Year Goals**

- Maintain sound financial position to accomplish objectives through fiscal year.
- Continue with firefighter officer development.
  - State fire classes for line officer development
  - Fire Officer – State Certification Levels to be acquired:
    - Level 1 for future officer candidates.
    - Level 2 for Captains, Lieutenants.
- Host additional NYS training in Whitehall for:
  - Firefighter Level1 Certification (FF1).
  - Firefighter Level2 Certification (FF2).
  - Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).
  - Firefighter Safety and Survival.
- Initial planning stage for larger quarters.
  - Larger doors for deeper apparatus bays.
  - Improved outdoor parking system for firefighters.
  - Truck - one for each bay
  - Ample ramp area.
  - Installation of a ventilation system for diesel smoke abatement issues.
- All Class A firefighter's trained at FF2 level in addition to RIT training.
- Planned replacement of carbon fiber SCBA bottles.
  - SCBA fill station upgrade.
  - Move from current 2215 psi SCBA, to 4500 psi SCBA
  - Acquire adequate supply of tanks.