

Fire Marshals report to the Somers Fire Commission, December 14, 2011

With two weeks to go in the 2011 calendar year I have taken in \$5,900 in Fire Marshal Permit fees. This is \$100.00 more than last year. I expect to take in another \$300.00 in the next two weeks, for a total of \$6,200. This is \$400.00 dollars more than last year on 10 less permits. So far in 2011, \$ 2,500 dollars came from 90 Burning permits. Prior to charging \$25 for a Burning permit, we had a high of 99 permits. Last year, in 2010, 55 permits were issued. Building was down this year and there were 8 less concessions at the 4-H Fair. Housing project behind Smyths garage on Field Road is still moving toward its approval goal of spring 2012.

Construction is going full bore at Woodcrest senior housing site on Battle Street. I gave the fire department 3 copies of a pre-plan of the large two story building at the complex. There getting ready to install propane heaters at the complex. I had an issue with them exceeding 25 ft. distance of the hose from tank to heater. These heaters are rated by ANSI standard 8V25Z-2007 for 25 feet of ½ inch hose at 10 psi from the tank regulator to propane heater. Hy-Grade gas Co. is going to have a tank outside on the ground and an iron pipe manifold set up, so no tank hose exceeds 25 feet.

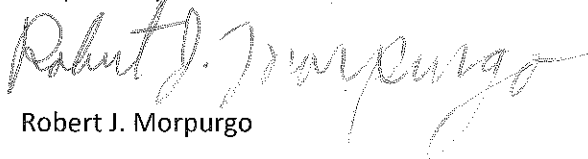
I am trying to get a MOD for Growers Direct propane tanks which are to close to the building. Twenty feet is required and they are at 14 feet presently. There are 2- 2,500 gallon tanks, piped above ground to the new 5 Acre green house. I am asking for a reduction to 10 feet from bldg. to tank, and 4- 1,000 gallon tanks piped below ground. This lowers total from 5,000 gallons to 4,000 gallons. In the event of a leak or fire, they can be isolated. The piping will not be exposed to the radiant heat of a fire. This makes the set up much safer than present. They only heat 90-100 days a year. A few weeks a year there are 50 people in this large building. The tank area will be protected with Jersey barriers and fence. There will be a new vaporizer, piping and regulators.

We had a small electrical fire in the crèche, nativity scene in the front of the All Saints Catholic Church at 25 School Street. All the extension cord wiring from the church to the crèche, were damaged, including the fuse box sub-panel. Jeremy Simmons did the investigation. All new ground-fault outdoor rated cords are in place. The spot-light was lowered from 100 watts to a 40 watt spot-light.

Annual property inspections were down 11 to 230. About 15 small businesses closed. Four new opened and Somers Golf added a race track and remodeled the year old kitchen. The package store on Main and DG Graphics on 38 Springfield Road opened recently. The ECHN Health Clinic on South Road opened this summer. House to office conversion at 645 Main nearly completed.

Fire Incident reports are at 1,240 so far in 2011 which is 26% above last years 988. The snow storm in January, Hurricane Irene, and the October freak snow storm accounted for 235 extra calls. We usually increase about 7% a year which is about 65 calls a year.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert J. Morpurgo