

The Fire Marshals Report to the Somers Fire Commission on January 16, 2014

We had trouble with inaccurate reporting of alarms from Somers Senior Housing at 75 Battle Street.

The first time was Dec. 16 and the second was Dec 24, 2013. Both alarms were reported as a medical alarm and they were actually food cooking smoke. Unit # 80 was minor, burned toast, the incident at 218 was burned food and smoke filled the hallway on the second floor. On Friday 1/10/14 Eastern Electronics spent the whole day testing every device at 75 Battle Street and they are all reporting properly to our alarm panel. The problem is between Eastern Electronics and AFA reporting company which calls Tolland 911 Center. Brooke Hawkins is in touch with both parties and may switch monitor vendors at the Housing Complex.

We also last weekend had 3 calls to Sonny's Golf and amusement center. A smoke alarm was going off in the Pavilion building do to extreme cold weather and the heat was off. Total Protection isolated the unit from the panel and may change that unit to a heat detector.

I have been inspecting the 5,561 sq. foot house at 721 Hall Hill Rd. The Monticello replica is installing a Security and Fire alarm system and will be monitored 24/7.

We took in \$5,085 in permits in 2013, down \$900 Dollars. We issued 35 less burning permits in 2013 that would account for \$875 dollars.

I met with the Building Official, John Collins and fire fighter Ray Stovall of Somers Fire, and we have agreed to pursue a policy for installation of Solar Panels in new construction in Somers. Based on the need fire fighter safety, and access to vent a roof and uncertain electrical hazards. There is limited roof access space, and electrical lines connected to solar panels and inverters. This guideline establishes the minimum standard for layout design, marking, and installation of solar photovoltaic systems and is intended to mitigate fire safety issues and be Code Compliant. This Guide is mirrored after the 2011 NEC 70 Electrical Code and UL 969 standard.

The guideline is applicable to all solar photovoltaic systems regardless of size for commercial and residential installations and use. We were preparing this as a Town Ordinance. But the State Building and State Fire Marshal's Office is about to adopt the 2011 electric Code this spring. This is all John Collins and I need to put this guide in use when installers and electricians come in to get their permits for these projects. Following this guide disconnects will be present and marked at the electrical panel. The fire Dept. will be notified of the location and type of every new installation for their pre plans. Marking DC power conduit, raceways and cable assemblies and junction boxes, to alert fire fighters not to cut them.

Respectfully, submitted:

Robert J. Morpurgo

  
Somers, FIRE MARSHAL

The Fire Marshals Report to the Somers Fire Commission, December 19, 2013

I had meetings with the owners of Sonny's Golf, the Town sanitarian, Steve Jacob and the Building Official about sewage problems, leeching fields, and increased parking lots and the water runoff causing contamination of these fields. Also the complex fire department access and the lack of firefighting water available at the site. There seems to be a solution to these existing problems. By extending the public water supply west 500 ft. from Somers firehouse to Somers funeral home, which is opposite Sonny's Place. A water line could then cross northerly under ( RTE 190) Main Street to Sonny's Place. A domestic water line and fire line with a fire hydrant added. This would take care of the sewer problems and a fire Hydrant located on the property would help fire suppression and lower the owner's insurance costs.

There was a Fire at the Transfer Station, on Egypt road the last Sunday of November. Two large dumpsters were set on fire. Damage confined to the dumpsters. A surveillance camera across the street and a few hundred feet north on Egypt road captured in its lenses a car go by at 4:41am and leave the area at 4:51am. Thirteen minutes later at 5:04 am, smoke began to cover the DPW complex. The fire was not reported until several hours later by a passerby.

We had a serious working fire at 68 Main Street on the second floor on December 4, at 8:06 am. Serious because the call came in as working fire with occupants trapped. Prior to Somers Fire dept. arrival, a passerby had rescued a 7 year old girl with burns to 5-8% of her body. On arrival Somers firefighter Ray Stovall and Hazardville firefighter Jamie Hurley rescued the unconscious mother from a second floor bed room. Both mother and daughter were transported by ambulance to Bay State Hospital and then to two Boston Hospitals, Mom to Mass. General and 7 year old daughter to Shriners Burn Center Hospital.

As the year winds down, all annual permits are issued and a few have to still send in a check this week. We have taken in about \$6,000 so far and we still may have a few more burning permits issued in these last two weeks of the calendar year 2013.

I developed a list of Statue Statutes and the NFPA #1 requirement sections on the need for fire watch and standby personnel at Fairs, Exhibitions, and Special outdoor Events. They explain that the AHJ (the State Fire Marshal) delegates to the local jurisdictions, Fire Marshal, the job of enforcing the Ct. Life Safety Code. It also explains that to enforce the requirements of the Special Outdoor Events, Fairs and Exhibitions in section 10.16 of NFPA-1, the Town should have an Ordinance to issue Permits, by the local Fire Marshal, to hold these Events. In annex F of NFPA-1 it says the local Town can by Ordinance charge fees for Fire Marshal Permits and publishes cost fees for each item on the permit. Somers passed that Ordinance in August 8, 2009

The Multi use Church building on School Street, owned by All Saints Church now has a fire alarm system with heat and smoke detectors, All Churches, Bars and Clubs and Public Assembly buildings, and Pavilions, in Somers has a Fire Code compliant fire alarm and monitored 24/7 by an alarm company or TN 911 Center.

Respectfully submitted:

*Robert J. Marpurg*

The Fire Marshals Report to the Fire Commission, November 21, 2013

Last week Glen and I attended a two day seminar at Rocky Hill, Connecticut and earned 13 Ceu,s

Today I inspected and granted a Tent Permit to Domion Power CO. for Dedication Ceremony of the new Solar Power farm at 488 South Road.

I am allowing the high school to treat plywood on wall for art display with FX Lumber Guard coating. On top of that they will apply PINacle Tack board panels a Class A fire tested board that meets ASTM E-84.

The Somers Fire Dept. called me to 102-106 Main for CO in the building. One of two furnaces that were running blew exhausted gases into the building instead of into the chimney flue. I had the building official Post this building as inhabitable. The flues were rusted out and the chimney bricks fell apart. I had it repaired the following Tuesday and had the owner add 5 domestic sprinkler heads to the basement in leau of 1hr. Fire Rated wall board around each of two furnaces.

I had the Somersville Post Office put in a new heating system. The furnace had issues and filled the Post Office and the apartment above with smoke and CO gas back in October.

The blown manifold on my car was fixed and Lisa Pelligrini had DPW pay for the \$1200 repair cost.

I had 5lb. fire extinguishers and brackets added to all Town Highway vehicles and Parks Dept. vehicles.

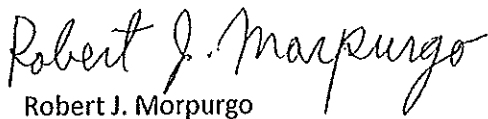
I did a plan review on another 4 acre crop building at Growers Direct.

Recent inspections and FM Permits issued to: Joanna's Café, Car Place, Extra Mart, Mobil Gas Sta., Meyer Motors, Parks Superior Motors and Ace hardware and St Germaine Car Sales/Garage.

I put new fire extinguishers at the Animal control building, Transfer station and Parks Dept. building and the DPW Gas Pumps.

I just signed Glen Reynolds up for a two day Seminar at So. Windsor CT. It is on Arson Investigation and Report writing. 12 Ceu,s will be granted.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Robert J. Morpurgo

SOMERS FIRE MARSHAL