

Bellaire Fire Department

DEACON TITTEL

FIRE CHIEF/EMC

DAVIS FARQUHAR

ASST. CHIEF /FIRE MARSHAL

HISTORY

Bellaire Fire Department

On September 29, 1931 the city passed an ordinance, creating a Fire Marshal Position and a Fire Prevention Board

Lute Anderson – First Fire Marshal

Mrs. E. J. Owens, Lute Anderson, and Clarence Anderson– Fire Prevention Board

Bellaire Fire Department

Bellaire Community Club was formed and started urging City Council to buy a fire truck and form a volunteer fire department

December 13, 1932 a 1926 Pierce Arrow Model 81 Touring Car was purchased by the City for \$85.00

Additional \$600.00 was put into the conversion and by May of 1933 the first fire truck went into operation

Bellaire Fire Department

This truck was equipped with 1 inch rubber fire hose supplied with 2 – soda and acid chemical tanks



1933—First Fire truck with Clarence Anderson at the wheel. Others in the photo are left to right, Lute Anderson, Mr. Mims, J. H. Bohmfalk, Anderson, W. P. Long, Mrs. Leon Rosner, Earl Menefee and Edward Teas, Sr. Building in back is Gem Electric Co. and the Bellaire Ice and Water Plant.

Bellaire Fire Department

The department also acquired a 500 gallon water tank that was placed on a trailer and towed to the fire. This was called the “floating fire plug.”

It was supplied with 1 ½ inch cotton fire hose for fire suppression efforts.

The department also had the capabilities of siphoning water from ditches if it happened to be a wet day.

Bellaire Fire Department

Mayor Bohmfalk proclaimed the week of September 26, 1933 as Fire Prevention Week. This was the first Fire Prevention week for the city

Fire Prevention week is now recognize as the first week in October, nation wide.

Bellaire Fire Department

The Fire Truck that the city used for operations was stationed at the corner of Bissonnet and S. Rice where the **Volvo shop** and the small strip center is now.

The citizens that participated in any type of emergency activity were alerted by a fire siren that was located on top of a forty foot tower.

When a fire occurred the citizens would call Leon Rosner's home (which used to be located across from the fire station) and she would press a button to set off the fire siren to alert all.

Bellaire Fire Department

The department was organized and became official in May of 1935. It took two attempts to organize a structured department.

The first volunteer staff consisted of 18 members

G.H. Miles was elected as Bellaire's first Volunteer Fire Chief

W.A. Erdman was the first paid firefighter for the city.

Bellaire Fire Department

In 1936, the city purchased the water plant from Clarence Anderson, along with the plant, land was purchased to relocate public works and the fire station.

The location on the new facilities was a Jessamine and Rice Avenue (where the Police Department is currently located).

A small house was also built for the paid firefighters.

Bellaire Fire Department

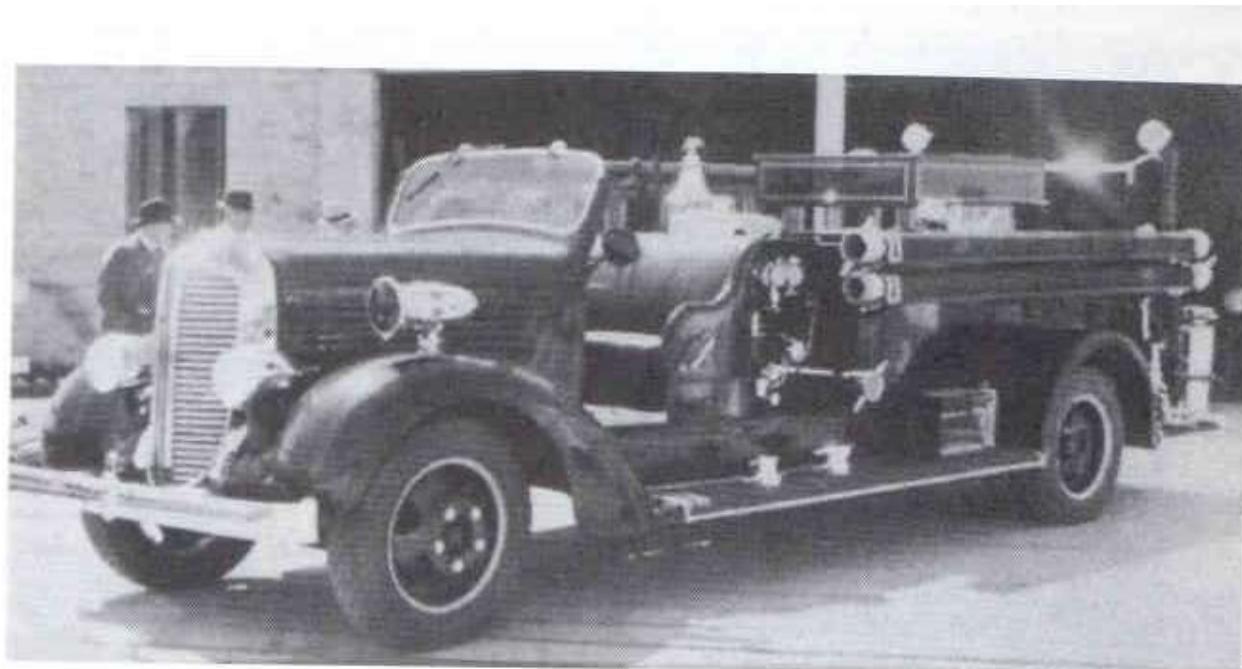
March 22, 1938 the city accepted delivery of its first true Fire Truck, that day the city was designated as a fire district



Volunteer Fire Department

Back row: left to right: Jimmie Dement, Bill Lowery, Casey Vanderheider, Jack Horn, Allen Rosenberger, Harold Weinzell, Grant Webster, Billy Stallworth, W. E. Frazier, M. W. Oliver, Joe Genetake, M. S. Bickel, Louis M. Taub.
Front row: Andrew B. Seward, Sr., George Ross, Sinclair Wells, Rev. E. Frank Lothers, J. W. Holland, Mayor "Abe" Zindler, G. H. Miles, Tom Long, Jack Lawler, Frank J. Weinzell, B. C. Ely. In very front, Andy Seward, Jr., Mascot.

Bellaire Fire Department



First pumper—1938. Men in back, left to right, Mayor Zindler, Bob Turrentine

Bellaire Fire Department

By 1945, the city of Bellaire started to thrive. With a population of 1600 citizens an approximately 600 homes

The business district starting building as well.

The department was in a stable condition with 2 good trucks, 27 members, and steadily making improvements.

Bellaire Fire Department

On October 15, 1952, the Bellaire Volunteer Fire Department officially became a paid department.

J.F. Guerdon was the Acting Volunteer Fire Chief.

Bellaire Fire Department

James H. Lehmann took over as Volunteer Fire Chief shortly after.

W.B. Willis was Bellaire Fire Department's first Paid Fire Chief. 1952 – 1953

Glenn O Hutchins appointed Acting Fire Chief in 1953. Also was appointed Fire Chief in 1954

Only had 4 paid firefighters until 1954 (drivers)

Bellaire Fire Department

Every year after 1954, the city would hire one if not two firefighters until the staffing of 18 firefighters was met.

1955 The department built a new station at Jessamine and S. Rice, our current location.

It cost the city \$162,000 for the land, building, and fixtures.

Bellaire Fire Department

Along with the progressive movement the city created a position of a Full Time Fire Marshal and became part of the Bellaire Engineering and Inspection Department in November of 1963.

By 1969, the department worked in two different shifts with one man on a swing shift.

Current

Bellaire Fire Station



Staffing

21 Career Firefighters

- 3 Shifts
- 48/96

2 Administration

- Asst. Fire Chief / Fire Marshal
- Fire Chief

5 Volunteers

Staffing

Dual certified staff

- Firefighter/Paramedics
 - 468 Hour Fire Coursework, with 150 hours of EMT Coursework
- How to become a Paramedic
 - 3 Semesters of College Course work equals to 1250 hours
- Continuing Education
 - Firefighter 18 Basic + 2 hrs. per certified discipline.
 - Paramedic 144 (Every 4 Years)

Emergency Responses

EMS Responses

- EMD Certified Dispatch Center
- MICU Capabilities

Fire Responses

- Average 3 a year
- Automatic Aide with West U/Southside Place
- Mutual Aid with City of Houston

EMS Response Breakdown

Medical

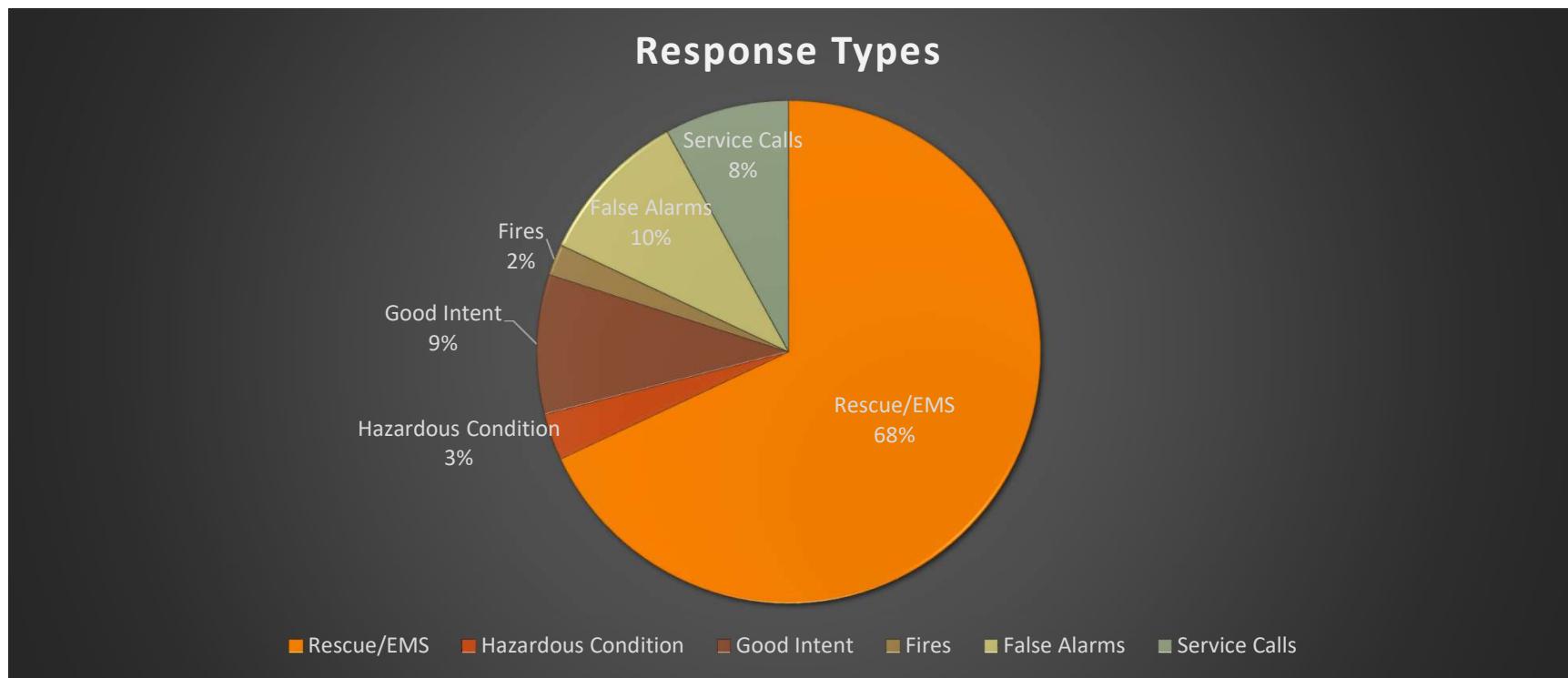
Trauma

Service Calls

False Alarms

Motor Vehicle
Collisions

Fire Response Breakdown





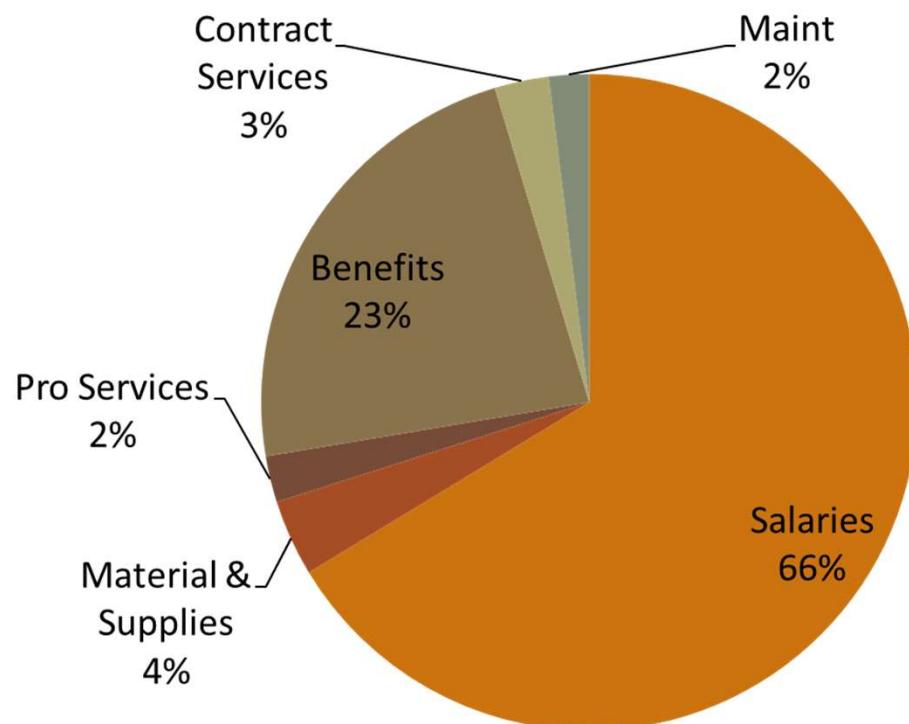
Bellaire Fire Department



Bellaire Fire Department



How all this is paid for



Specialized Areas

Technical Teams

Certified Tactical Medics

- Support Bellaire PD's SRT
- All Staff is certified in TECC

Swiftwater/Floodwater Rescues

- 10 person team
 - 10 – Swiftwater/Floodwater Tech 1
 - 5 – Swiftwater/Floodwater Tech 2
 - 10 – Boat Operators



Tactical Emergency Casualty Care



Swiftwater / Flood Water Rescue



Prevention



Fire Prevention – Show and Tell

Challenges

Small City with Big City Opportunities

Increasing Call Volume

