

East Alstead Fire Station Tour

Select Board members present:

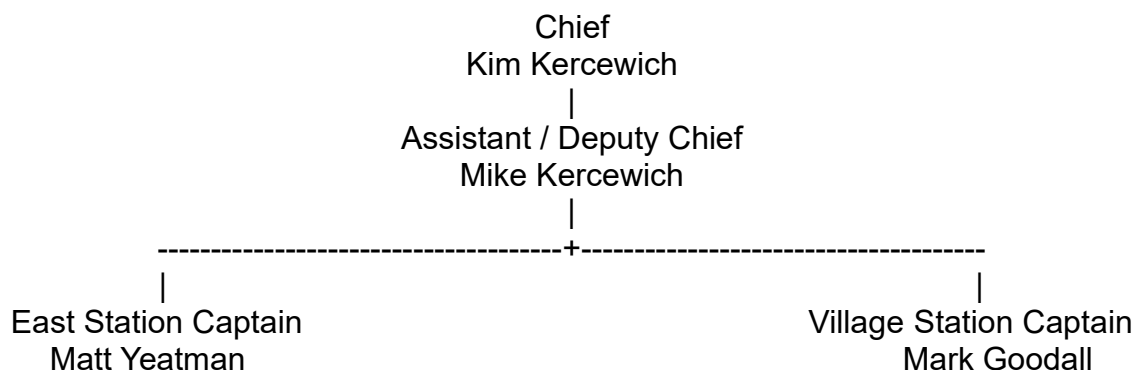
Mary Ann Wolf

Joe Levesque

Host:

Alstead Fire Chief Kim Kercewich

Mary Ann and Joe arrived on 7/23 at 4:12 pm. We met Chief Kercewich in his office. Joe asked if the station has Comcast for its internet service provider. Kim said yes. Mary Ann asked Kim about the hierarchy of the fire department, and if there were job descriptions. Kim said the Org Chart looks something like this:



Kim has job descriptions for everyone in the department, and will get us copies of them if we need them. He said the Captains are in charge of the buildings and the equipment stationed at each building. Joe would like to request the job descriptions through Charlotte.

The carpet in the break room and office hallway is beyond redemption and should be replaced with tile, similar to the kitchen and bathroom tile. But Joe is not in total favor of this work unless he can get buy-in on his note.

The shower is not too bad, in Joe's opinion, but definitely needs a good cleaning and new shower curtain liner. Kim said the shower had not been used since the flood. The bathroom in general could use a thorough cleaning. The toilet has rust stains that may or may not be permanent. Kim noted that there are no towels available, and asks that anyone using it should bring their own towels and toiletries. There is a keypad on the door to the station. If a first responder has the key code, then s/he has access to the building.

Meetings are held in the break room, and since covid-19, they have been held in the main bays to promote social distancing.

The overall cleanliness of the building is, in Joe's humble opinion, lacking. The interior has not been repainted since the station was built in 1997. It needs a fresh coat.

Also, while the outsides of the fire trucks were clean, the insides could use an occasional visit from a vacuum cleaner as well! The fire station does not have a vacuum. Plus, there should be some type of long pole with a soft duster on top to clean the cobwebs off the ceiling in the main bays. That, by itself would really help the overall appearance of the bays!

And due to his work on the election committee, Joe believes the same is true for the Village Station building. It's in a similar condition of cleanliness (or lack thereof).

Spotted Dog isn't working on the big screen in the main bays. Matt Yeatman knows what is wrong and will order the part to fix it. Spotted dog is the app the AFD uses to track current calls.

Kim's Wish List for the East Station:

1. Replace and move the fans in the main section of the building. Two of the three fans don't work, and the fans should be over the isles, not over the trucks as they are now.
2. Replace the florescent tube lighting with LED lighting in the main bays.
3. Buy and install a washer and dryer.

Note by Joe: The Select Board should discuss with Kim the idea of making building and equipment cleanliness part of the Captain's (and maybe all upper management's) performance review. If we can get this concession, we could budget for a couple of decent vacuum cleaners (one for each station) and get a line item in the FD budget for cleaning supplies. However, getting concessions on keeping the Village Station clean will have to include the Ambulance dept.

NOTE: Kim noted that he understood from Yeatmann that Rock had approved the filling of a hot tub & also pools in general. We stated that this was (as he knew) contrary to last year's ban of filling pools and that the SB had not reversed last year's vote. Joe made a note to bring this up at the next meeting.