

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Volunteer Firefighter

Official Title: Volunteer Firefighter

Appointment: Appointed by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Mayor and Fire Chief. Salary established by the Council.

Objective: Assists in the administration of firefighter activities.

Scope: Performs emergency services and rescue activities involving protection and safety of the community through prevention and control of fires.

Relationship: Works under the general supervision of the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and Training Officer. Must be able to work as a team member under stress caused by emergencies, danger, or criticism and must be able to work fast while concentrating very hard.

Typical Duties Performed:

- * Responds to fire or emergency calls.
- * Radios the dispatcher for additional help or special rescue and/or utility services, if needed.
- * Operates emergency vehicles using the most expeditious route, depending upon traffic and weather conditions.
- * Performs duties at emergency scene wearing personal protective equipment as directed by the Fire Chief or Officer in Charge.
- * Participates in continuing education and training programs.
- * Ensures after each call that all supplies and equipment are clean and ready for use.
- * Carries, places and climbs ladders for rescue or ventilation operations.
- * Searches burning buildings for persons who may be inside.
- * Connects hoses to water sources and carries hoses at fire scene.
- * Performs clean up operations after a fire has been extinguished.
- * Cleans and maintains fire equipment and apparatus.
- * Performs such other duties as directed by the Fire Chief, Assistant Chiefs and Training Officer.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- * Considerable ability to give and receive verbal and written directions and instruction.
- * Considerable ability to analyze situations and determine appropriate action.
- * Considerable skills to expertly drive an emergency vehicle under any conditions.

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Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: continued:

- * Considerable ability to respond quickly and appropriately to crisis and emergency situations.
- * Considerable ability to walk or crawl through smoke filled areas; drag or carry trapped victims from burning buildings.
- * Working ability to carry, lift, extricate, climb, hoist and other similar maneuvers in a manner not detrimental to co-workers, victims or self.
- * Working ability to work with or around irritants, fumes, smoke, infectious disease and hazardous chemicals at an accident or fire scene.

Physical Requirements:

Vision: Normal vision needed with or without correction. Requires both near and far acuity.

Hearing: Normal hearing needed. To do this work the fire fighter must discriminate among similar sounds in environments with a great deal of background noise.

Lifting Needed: The fire fighter may be required to lift 100 pounds or more.

Walking and/or Mobility Needed: Must be able to walk or crawl while carrying or lifting. Must be able to ascend and descend stairs or ladders. Must be able to balance and ability to steady oneself and keep from falling. Must be capable of reaching (extend the hands or arms in any direction); handling (seizing, holding, grasping, turning, or otherwise working with the hands); fingering (picking, pinching, or otherwise working with the fingers); and feeling (perceiving attributes of objects such as size, shape, temperature, or texture by means of receptors in skin, particularly those of the fingertips. Must be capable of applying a leg lock with either leg upon a ground ladder to provide a safe anchor when operating hose lines or performing rescue work.

Work Environment:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The fire fighter works both inside where there may be protection from weather conditions and outside where there may be no effective protection from the weather. The fire fighter may work in extreme cold where the temperature is sufficiently low to cause marked bodily discomfort and variations in temperature which accompany extreme cold and are sufficiently marked and abrupt to cause a marked bodily reaction. They also may be required to work in extremes of heat where temperatures are sufficiently high to cause marked bodily discomfort and variations in temperature which accompany extreme heat and are sufficiently marked and abrupt to cause marked bodily reaction.

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Work Environment: continued:

The fire fighter will encounter wet conditions and high humidity where atmospheric conditions have a moisture content sufficiently high to cause marked bodily discomfort. The fire fighter will frequently encounter noise and /or vibration exceeding 80 decibels, constant or intermittent, to cause marked distraction or possible hearing loss. The fire fighter will also encounter a variety of physical hazards such as proximity to moving mechanical parts, electrical shock, working on high places, exposure to burns and radiant energy, and exposure to explosives toxic chemicals and biological agents.

Education and Experience:

High school diploma or GED equivalent;
Must be at least 18 years of age;
Must possess a valid Minnesota Drivers License;
Must pass background investigation, physical examination, and physical ability test;
Must have the ability to respond to the fire hall within twenty minutes.