



# Council Business Meeting

February 20, 2024

<b>Agenda Item</b>	Life Saving Award		
<b>From</b>	Ralph Sartain	Fire Chief	
<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:Ralph.sartain@ashland.or.us">Ralph.sartain@ashland.or.us</a>	541-552-2229	
<b>Item Type</b>	Requested by Council <input type="checkbox"/> Update <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> New Business <input type="checkbox"/> Old Business <input type="checkbox"/>		

## **SUMMARY**

For exceptional actions by Ashland Fire & Rescue and Jackson County Fire District 5, a member of the community is alive today. With great enthusiasm we have awarded Retired-Captain Todd Beck and Firefighters Ty Haggard and Matt Brown with Ashland Fire & Rescues (AF&R) Life Saving Medal. All members present on the scene that evening have been nominated for an Oregon State Unit Citation.

## **POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED**

Employee Recognition

## **BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

On April 3, 2023, at 20:34 hrs., shortly after completing a study session with Council on the need for additional staffing. Ashland Fire & Rescue and Jackson County Fire District 5 were dispatched to B Street, Ashland, Oregon, for a structure fire with a confirmed trapped victim. A fire originated in the victim's residence; she initially vacated the residence and realized her cats had not made it out. The fire victim re-entered her residence and became trapped by smoke and flames.

Engine 1 (Retired-Captain Beck, Engineer Caples, Firefighter (FF) Haggard, Recruit Probationary FF Hansen) & Medic 1 (FF Brown, FF Stewart) arrived on the scene at 2038 hrs., advised of smoke showing with the victim trapped in the residence.

Captain Beck and FF Haggard advanced a cross-lay to door, Captain Beck conducted a quick 360 while FF Haggard could hear the victim calling for help. FF Haggard advanced into the structure and cooled the content fire while moving towards the noise of the victim in search mode. FF Haggard located the victim in the bathroom of the primary fire room. Captain Beck and FF Brown entered the structure, immediately following Haggard, and assisted in removing the victim to the front door. Engineer Caples supplied the water source, while Recruit Probationary Firefighter Hansen hand advanced a large diameter hose to a fire hydrant to provide continual water.

Fire Fighter Stewart met the interior crew with a backboard at the front door of the residence to receive the patient from the interior crew. The second arriving unit's Engine 2 Captain Roselip and Engineer Mekkers with Jackson County Fire District 5 Truck 5 (Captain Dave Meads, Engineer Brady Graham, Firefighter's Tony Incerty & Caleb English) entered the structure and suppressed the fire. From the call's





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time to the victim's removal, was 9 minutes and 33 seconds, from Engine 1 on scene to rescue was 5 minutes and 2 seconds.

FF Brown, and Recruit Probationary Firefighter Hansen maintained care of the patient and transported her to Asante Rogue Regional Medical with Firefighter Stewart driving, where the victim was ultimately transferred to the Emmanuel Burn Center in Portland.

While tonight we are focusing on the Actions of Captain Beck, FF's Haggard, and Brown which are exemplary models of the fire service, and their actions directly saved the life of a trapped fire victim, while entering an Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (ILDH) atmosphere at their own risk. The action by all involved in this incident was of extreme service to this community and based on these actions, all involved in the incident from initial arrival, treatment, transport, suppression, command and control, investigation to the continued notification and PIO work made this a successful event. All members of both organizations have been nominated for an Oregon State Unit Citation.

The members are:

## **Jackson County Fire District 5:**

BC6 – Battalion Chief Brian Bolstad

Truck 5 – Captain Dave Meads, Engineer Brady Graham, Firefighter's Tony Incerty & Caleb English

Engine 3 – Captain Jimmy Johnson, Engineer Matt Lichtenstein, Firefighter Kyle Humphrey

## **Ashland Fire & Rescue**

BC1 – Battalion Chief Todd Stubbs

Engine 1 – Captain Todd Beck (Retired), Engineer Daniel Caples, Firefighter Ty Haggard, Recruit probationary Firefighter Zach Hansen

Medic 1 – Firefighters Matt Brown and Matt Stewart

Engine 2 – Captain David Roselip, Engineer Mike Mekkers

Support 1 – Fire and Life Safety Specialist Sydney Jenkins

C101- Forestry Officer/PIO Chris Chambers

C2 – Deputy Chief – Operations Marshall Rasor

C1 – Fire Chief Ralph Sartain

## **FISCAL IMPACTS**

N/A

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

None

## **SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS**

Mayor and Council to present the awards on behalf of the City.

## **REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS**

None