

FIREFIGHTER RESIDENCY

ARTICLE 58. Mr. Whelan moves: that the Town take affirmative action on Article 58 as printed in the warrant.

FIREFIGHTER RESIDENCY

Mass. Gen. Law C. 41 section 99A requires that:

“Any member of the regular police or fire department ... of a city or town appointed subsequent to August 1, 1978, shall reside within fifteen miles of the limits of said city or town”.

Brief History of CFD

1855 Fire Department Formed – Budget \$288.90

1915 First Permanent Firefighter Hired

1935 First Permanent Fire Chief, 5 permanent members

1951 Ambulance Service Transferred to Fire Dept.

2015 42 full-time sworn Firefighters



W. Concord Fire Department - Church Street, W. Concord - 1930

FIREFIGHTER RESIDENCY

- **Residency Rule was reasonable when off-duty firefighters returned to station during emergencies and major fires;**
- **Industry is changing –more reliance on “mutual aid” from nearby communities for faster response;**
- **The Town and firefighters union agree that a limit closer to 35 miles is more reasonable, given the cost of housing in our area;**

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- **A Firefighter Residency requirement is a matter that should be worked out community-by-community through the collective bargaining process;**
- **Special Legislation was approved for the Town of Boxborough in 2007 allowing the matter to be resolved through collective bargaining.**
- **Concord would request legislation similar to that approved for Boxborough.**

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