

## **Town of Falmouth**

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## **NEWS RELEASE - 2022-01**

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2022

For Further Information, contact Chief Howard Rice, Jr. at 207-781-2610

## Falmouth Fire-EMS Responds to Fire in Barn on Woodville Road

On Sunday at 2:13 p.m. Falmouth Fire-EMS was dispatched to a report of a fire inside a barn at 261 Woodville Road. Chief Howard Rice was the first to arrive on scene and reported smoke coming from a single-story barn. Engine 2 arrived shortly after, and crews pulled a hose line from the truck and entered the barn. As crews opened the barn door heavy black smoke poured out. Chief Rice upgraded the call to a Working Fire response, which brings all of Falmouth's units to the scene as well as mutual aid to the scene and for station coverage.

While the Engine 2 crew attacked the fire, other Falmouth units arrived on scene. Engine 4 connected a supply line from Engine 2 down the long driveway to Tank 4 which set up at a hydrant on Woodville Road. Tower 2 then came up the driveway and set up behind Engine 2. Tower 2 crews brought ground ladders to the building and prepared to open up the roof if needed for ventilation. Engine 1 arrived on scene and sent their crew up to the barn to assist the other crews. Deputy Chief Tom Martelle set up a resource staging area to rotate crews into the building as needed. Ambulance 2 responded to the call from Portland as they were returning from a medical transport to Maine Medical Center. After they arrived on scene, Ambulance 2 set up a firefighter rehab station. As firefighters exited the fire building, they were sent to the rehab station and when rested they were sent to the resource group for another assignment. Falmouth Police Department assisted crews on the scene.

The initial fire attack crew from Engine 2 was able to quickly extinguish the fire, which appeared to have started in the area around a wood stove. The fire had spread to the walls and ceiling of the barn, which was filled with various farm equipment. Some of the equipment sustained minor damage due to the heat, but most of it, including three tractors, one truck, and a boat, were saved from major damage. The approximately 50' by 25' barn sat in between two much larger barns, but they were not impacted by the fire.

Mutual aid crews responding to the fire scene were able to be returned in route due to the quick knock down of the fire. Falmouth crews did need to perform extensive overhaul of the fire area, so an engine company from Westbrook covered the Winn Road Fire Station and an engine company from Cumberland covered Central Station on Bucknam Road. The Cumberland crew responded to one EMS call while covering Central Station. By 3:45 p.m. all Falmouth units cleared the scene and returned to quarters.

There were no injuries on scene.

End of release.

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