

# Alburtis and Lower Macungie Fire Department:

## Consolidation



# Goals:

- To consolidate two strong, successful, gold and rescue certified fire departments in order to **strengthen fire/rescue related services** in Alburtis Borough and Lower Macungie Township by combining staff, apparatus and equipment in the hopes of preserving the **VOLUNTEER** fire service for years to come; despite the ever decreasing number of volunteers nationwide
- Streamline the apparatus fleet to include new apparatus at all 3 stations within the first 5 years of the consolidation
- Consolidated department will remain LMFD, but also integrate the Alburtis FD heritage, culture, ideas and community

# Up to this point:

- Coverage of LMT's west end development a major concern/driving factor that drove this discussion now.....rather than later.
- 2015 LMT fire study supported the merger discussion and concern about west end growth
- Both FDs met in early 2017 and have a common mindset, philosophies and beliefs
- FD Leadership also met with both municipalities who also fully support the consolidation
- LMFD has decided to divide the 2 existing stations with new station numbers (80 and 81) and new dispatch tones (effective 01/02/18). This will decrease the responses of each station by approx. 100 per year with the goal of avoiding "burn out" of the members
- LMT phantom boxes updated to begin "3 station" response design so that both departments can work more closely and frequently
- Both departments agreed to a common weekly training night (Monday) to begin January 2018

# Up to this point:

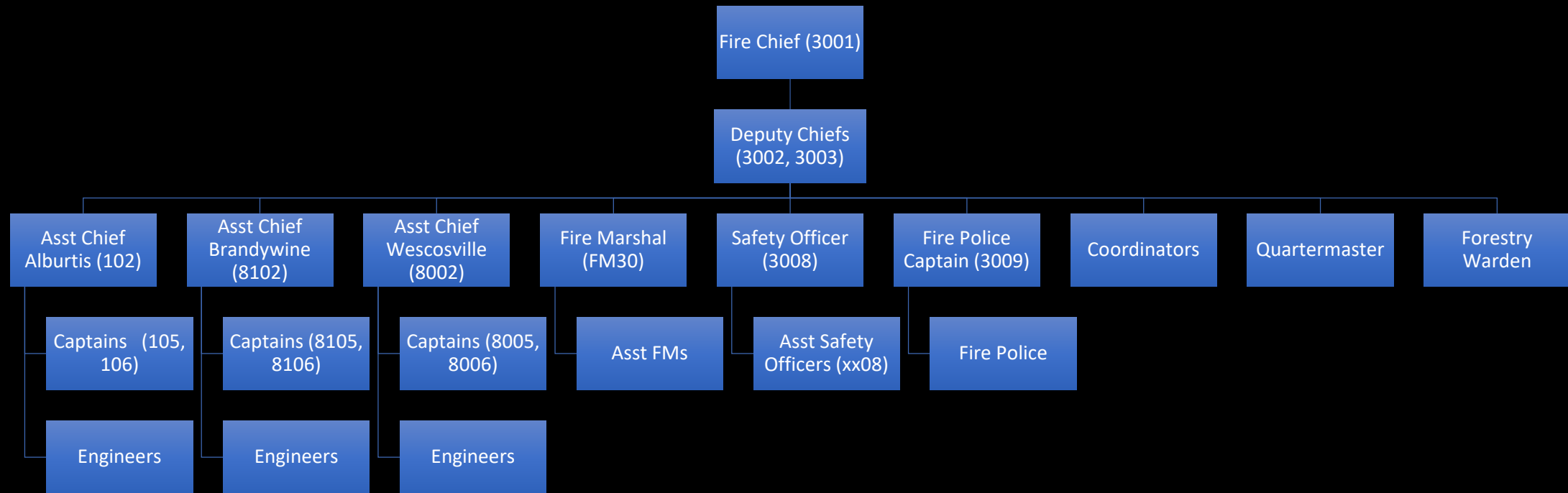
- New Tanker/Engine committee (members from both organizations) continue progress for an early 2019 delivery
- 12 person Transition Team (TT) formed in early Spring and have been meeting regularly to guide the process, identify hurdles, and formulate a consolidation plan
- 5 task groups assigned by the TT have spent the summer analyzing specific needs/hurdles, and making recommendations on how to make their facets of the consolidation a success. All task groups have come back and advised that the consolidation can work.

# Main Operational Officers Setup:

- Chief
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chiefs (2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief is a new position)
- 1 Assistant Chief per station (3 total)
- 2 Captains per station (6 total)
- Fire Marshal and related staff

(The new total of 6 Chief Officers will allow for better command coverage for both municipalities by dramatically decreasing/eliminating gaps in command coverage for emergency dispatches due to work, vacation, etc....)

# Operational Flow Chart:



# Apparatus Replacement Plan:

2018 – New 8131, LMT funded

2019 – New 121, LMT funded (Sell 112 and 121. Use proceeds from those sales towards purchasing two rescue units)

2023 – New 141 and 8041 (Identical Rescue/Engines). **Funded by LMFD at approx. 1.9 million**, with costs defrayed by sales of 112, 121, 3041, and 141.

2030 – New 8011 (LMFD funded)

2035 – New 8112 (LMFD funded)

# Post-Merge Apparatus Roster:

- Alburtis = Engine/Tanker 121, Rescue 141, Brush 161
- Brandywine = Engine 8112, Truck 8131, Special 8191, Foam 8192
- Wescosville = Engine 8011, Rescue 8041, Squad/Fire-Police 3051

(Each station will have 2 main combination pieces and an auxiliary)



# BENEFITS:

- Increases available staff for both Alburtis Borough and LMT (approx. 65)
- Increases type, quantity and quality of apparatus/equipment available
- Each end of LMT will have a rescue service housed
- Anticipated cost savings to Alburtis and LMT
- Eliminates duplication of equipment and apparatus
- Increased capability of the new FD (RIT, foam, ladder operations, forestry and CAFs capable responses)
- Handle 98% of call volume “in house”; frees up neighbor departments from minor calls and returns to LMFD the related relief money that goes along with it.

# 2018 TASKS:

- Continue to build new tanker/engine for early 2019 delivery
- Train together beginning 01/01/18
- Continue to respond together under 3 station response concept
- Transition of staff, apparatus, equipment and finances
- Revamp of existing by-laws and SOGs into new documents
- Notification to public of those effected areas of new response
- Go out and provide public presentations regarding consolidation
- Complete tasks and be 100% consolidated by 01/01/19

QUESTIONS?