

Town of Vienna, Virginia

MAYOR — James C. Martinelli

COUNCILMEN — Richard B. Dingman
Edward F. Mitchell
Alvin W. Norcross
Martha V. Pennino
Charles A. Robinson
L. Dean Wallace

TOWN MANAGER — C. Clay Harrell



Vol. 65-1

NEWSLETTER

February 1965

Fellow Citizens of Vienna:

One of the biggest problems of government is communication between the citizens and the elected officials: communication of ideas, communication of problems, and communication of what is being done. To further improve the relationship between citizen and official, the Vienna Town Council authorized the appointment of a part-time Special Assistant to the Town Manager for Public Information.

While the local government has the responsibility of keeping its citizens informed, it seems to me that it is an equal responsibility of the citizen to keep himself informed. The Town Council sits in open, public session at regular meetings and public hearings. Decisions are made that affect the welfare of 17,000 people, yet if we have more than two or three people in attendance it is a rarity.

In this first NEWSLETTER of 1965, the Town of Vienna proudly takes this opportunity to salute the men of the Vienna Police Department, the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, and the Vienna Public Safety Committee for their service to public safety in our Town.

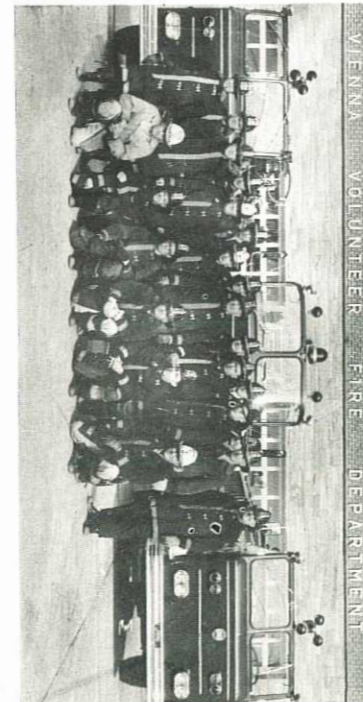
Future NEWSLETTERS will discuss and inform on such subjects as the budget, recreation, parks, and other pertinent information.

We hope that you will find these NEWSLETTERS informative, and through them learn more about your Town, your government, and the people who make up your Town.

Sincerely,

James C. Martinelli
James C. Martinelli
MAYOR

VIENNA REPORT ON PUBLIC SAFETY 1965



For Police Assistance...385-6000

For Fire or Rescue... 273-1113

Town of Vienna, Virginia

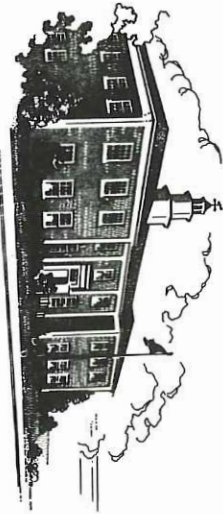
127 Center Street, South
Vienna, Virginia 22180

NEWSLETTER



Resident
317 Charles St., S.E.
Vienna, Virginia

75th Anniversary Year · Incorporated in 1890



VIENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The General Rules of Official Police Conduct for Vienna policemen states "...serve the public efficiently and effectively...be habitually courteous and particularly attentive to citizens seeking assistance...administer the law in a just, impartial and reasonable manner...". Because these rules are strictly enforced, the Vienna Police Department is well known and respected throughout the Commonwealth and the greater Washington area.

Police protection in Vienna was furnished by Fairfax County until 1947, when the first Chief of Police was appointed. Today, Vienna's 4.29 square miles are patrolled 24 hours a day by its 19 member Police Department which is composed of a major, a lieutenant, 3 sergeants, 2 corporals and 12 patrolmen.

Most of the men of the Department are taking college courses on their own time and attend required police training courses. They are working for college credits in law and evidence, national government, social and general psychology, police investigation, administration and public speaking. The Department has already earned over 100 college credits. The Town Council recognizes this willingness and ability as an asset to the Town, and provides, upon successful completion of each semester, the cost of the tuition for each man.

Vienna can be proud of accomplishments that can be credited directly to the modern police work of its Police Department. These include the 1963 Walker Award for reducing traffic accidents in the community, the AAA Pedestrian Safety Award for seven consecutive years and recent qualification for its eighth straight award; and the National Rifle Association 100% Qualification Awards for 1962-63-64. While crime has been rising in other areas, it was reduced in Vienna in 1963.

Statistics are often dull and soon forgotten, but a few of interest and worth mentioning are: In 1964 our Vienna police made 4,836 checks on banks; 3,471 checks on dwellings where occupants were away from the area; they found over 900 doors unlocked while making their rounds; reported 176 street lights out; 129 defective traffic signs; 454 defects in streets and public spaces; a foot patrolman "walked the beat" for a total of 2,924 hours; and 658 hours were spent in court work.

Recently the Vienna Policemen's Association was formed to "give relief to disabled and sick members...and to assist other service clubs of the Town of Vienna in promoting the welfare of the community." The Association members gave freely of their time in support of the Town's Bicycle Safety Program last fall.

"Off duty" activities of our policemen are quite vigorous. The Pistol Team has won many coveted prizes during the past two years. At the Southeastern Regional Combat Championship Matches, Vienna won the title by sweeping 20 trophies. The knowledge that this type of proficiency exists in the Town has been a serious deterrent to major crimes.

VIENNA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

In August 1964, the Vienna Town Council appointed a Public Safety Committee to "...provide recommendations to Council in pursuit of a comprehensive safety program...". This advisory group, made up of seven Town citizens and the Traffic Safety Officer of the Police Department, meets each month to investigate and submit recommendations to the Town Council. Some of the areas this Committee has dealt with are: the bicycle safety program, sidewalks, fire prevention, medical assistance, traffic control, and safety education.

VIENNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD

The exact date when the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department was organized is not recorded, but according to the Washington Post of June, 1940, "In Vienna, a growing community, fire losses have steadily decreased since the department was first organized in 1905 to serve a village of 300 inhabitants."

Those were the days when the community raised \$160 for the purchase of one of the earliest pieces of fire fighting equipment in Fairfax County. It was a 35 gallon chemical tank that was hauled to the scene of a blaze by horse when available. More often than not, it was dragged over fields and rutted roads by available citizens.

In 1919 Vienna acquired the first piece of motorized apparatus in the County--three 35 gallon chemical tanks with ample supply of garden hose mounted on a Model T Ford chassis. The equipment was housed in rent-free quarters in the old Town Hall on Center Street.

The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department became incorporated in 1929 when it moved to its own fire house which was built by the volunteers with contributed materials on a donated lot on Church Street.

Like the first brave brigade, the Vienna Rescue Squad had a difficult but valiant start with improvised equipment. First aid was administered, but transportation was dependent on the nearest available automobile. In 1950 the first ambulance, although not new, was purchased to serve the emergency needs of the area. The official log of the Rescue Squad indicates 694 calls for assistance were answered in 1964, ranging from childbirth delivery to the freeing of a hand from a vending machine. Area doctors can attest to the fast and efficient service these men provide. Attending classes at Fairfax Hospital, the men are instructed by local doctors in various specialized medical subjects to afford them full knowledge to cope with any and all emergencies.

The present fire station at 400 Center Street, South, was first occupied in March of 1958. It houses within the modern structure eight pieces of fire and rescue apparatus, including a County-owned 85-foot aerial ladder truck. Some of the equipment that the V.V.F.D. employs is over 8,000 feet of supply hoses, 2,500 feet of hand line hose, over 400 feet of ladders, chemicals, masks, entry tools, smoke ejectors, generators, lamps, floodlights, salvage covers, brooms, mops, a water vacuum cleaner, ceiling hooks, and a variety of hose nozzles for all types of fires.

One of the biggest items facing the Department in 1965 is the purchase of a new ambulance. This purchase is necessary to keep abreast with the needs of the more than 22,000 persons served by the Vienna Company. As is the case with all departments in the Fairfax County Fire Service, the volunteer departments must purchase the ambulances they require. The County pays to equip and maintain the vehicle, but the full purchase price is dependent on public donations. In addition to paying a third of the cost of each fire vehicle in the Company, Vienna Company must also bear the full expense of property purchase, construction and maintenance of the station, and insurance on the men and equipment.

Occupations of the volunteers include a variety of trades and professions. They all share one common interest--to assist you in times of emergency. They bring safety to your home and give service as fast as men and modern equipment can move, whether the emergency is fire, accident, or illness.

Although not officially a part of the Town government, a substantial yearly contribution is made to the Volunteer Fire Department by the Town. Vienna's 17,000 residents can be proud of Fire Company 2 and Rescue Squad 2 and its 76 active members.