

In 1928 the village hall was completed complete with fire station and hose drying tower. There was a siren at the top of the tower which signaled the volunteers to come to the station to read the address written on the board and proceed to the fire. Or they could follow the fire truck if they saw it on its way. The old station was used until 1960 when new quarters were built. Center Line became a city in 1936 and it purchased a 1936 Dodge 500 GPM pumper to cover the 36 square mile area.

In 1936 Assistant Fire Chief Elmer Flechsig became Police Chief, and Fire Chief George Theut became Assistant Police Chief. In 1939 Warren Township organized its Fire Department. In 1943 Chief Theut resigned his position and Andrew Weigand was appointed Chief by the City Council. Andrew held this position until 1947 when he took other duties with the city. In 1947 Nelson Bruechert was appointed chief by council. In 1953 the city Council passed an ordinance creating the position of Public safety Commissioner. With this change the fire department went on an 8-hour shift assuring the duties of the desk for the police department. In 1956 the city seeing the need for emergency ambulance service, purchased a 1956 Chevorlet Station Wagon to be used as an emergency ambulance and as a spare police vehicle. This station wagon was replaced in 1958 with a Cadillac ambulance fully equipped. In 1956 the city also purchased a pickup truck to be used both as an emergency truck to carry emergency equipment, but to also double as the inspector's car. This has since been replaced by a 1962 GMC Rescue Truck. In 1957 the old 1926 LaFrance was retired and a new 1000 GPM American LaFrance was purchased. Several of us could stand on the back platform and hang on to the rail at times when we needed to move quickly. I remember this one year when we had so many grass fires we had to leave some and move to others to protect homes.



In 1960 the city remodeled city hall. This was completed in 1961. This gave the city a four bay fire station completely equipped with the city hall and police department all under one roof. Spirit 54 the police and fireman's club bought the city a new resuscitator and made other contributions. At this time the city had 10 regular fireman and 10 volunteers. Over time the department grew and added more equipment.



Chief Norman Smith, Andy Mowrey, R Hickson, Joe O'Lear, A Meduvsky, J Mainero, Art Anderson, H Gibson, A Kozlowski, Guy Swanson, W Desmone