

## Final Candidates Interview Answers

1. The town has shown great support for the department in recent months. With the approval of the land acquisition for a new station and including EMS in the future building design I see the new collaboration between Fire, EMS, Police and BOS to be a fantastic foundation for public safety.
2. As for strengths, our greatest is the expertise of our firefighters and their commitment to the safety of the community. Both our staff and the fire equipment we have now is at very high standard. With my leadership, I am sure we can raise the bar even higher by recruiting new firefighters and possibly combining forces with EMS. As for weaknesses, I see recruitment as a top priority. The housing issue plays a big part island wide; many younger people work more than one job just to get by. This leaves them with little time to volunteer to the department. Water sources is another issue. I would like to immediately assess the conditions of existing tanks.
3. Day one, I will start organizing the department's office and systems. I have and will be actively recruiting new members. I would like to acquire Ice Rescue Equipment prior to the winter season, if it can be worked into the budget. I would request a training exercise with West Tisbury's proficient water rescue team. All unused equipment needs to be assessed and decommissioned if necessary. While we are in the process of getting a new station, I would like to paint the front of Crossroad Station to give it more curb appeal and the North Road stations sign needs to be re done.
4. As a new Fire Chief, I will be appreciative of my firefighter's service. I see myself as an encouraging and engaging Chief. It is important to me to combine drills with EMS and Police as we work hand in hand to protect our community. An open dialogue with the BOS and all town departments is also a priority.
5. An open dialogue and their confidence in me as Chief will get so many of our objectives accomplished.