   The first fire company in Fairport was established in 1877 by the workmen of the DeLand Chemical Company to "protect the property of the Chemical Works first, [but] always [to be] ready to aid in other places when not needed there." The DeLand Hose Company was formally incorporated on August 23, 1877 with 53 charter members and Levi DeLand as president. The Fairport Hook and Ladder Company was incorporated in 1881 with 25 charter members, and the Fairport Protectives, whose job was to "restrain crowds at fires and to remove property from buildings and protect it after removal," was incorporated in 1890. These three companies still comprise today's Fairport Fire Department.

   The hose cart, pictured here, was the first major piece of equipment purchased by the department to add to their buckets and ladders. It held about 100 feet of hose and was hauled by twenty men. The department had in total about 650 feet of hose which could reach most of the central business district. By the end of 1877, the company had raised $600 for the purchase of a hook and ladder wagon "with six ladders ranging from 9 to 40 feet in length, …hooks, pike poles, axes, lanterns, ropes, two dozen buckets and two small hand Babcock extinguishers." The wagon and the hose cart were stored on the floor of the building that currently houses Recreational Vehicles. A Silsby Steam Fire Engine was purchased the following year.

   The fire department responded to many calls, but the most spectacular fires tended to involve local businesses. In February of 1893, the DeLand Chemical works was destroyed by fire primarily because the village had no regular water system and the canal and streams were frozen. Subsequent fires of the early 20th century destroyed the Bown Carriage Works on South Main Street and damaged the Trescott Company on North Main Street. Two fires damaged the Douglass Packing Company. Losses, however, were and continue to be, greatly outweighed by the preservation of life and property made possible by the fire department's dedicated volunteers.