



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: September 28, 2020

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager
Rob Maleszyk, Chief Financial Officer
Lisa Burnham, Controller
David Roberts, Fire Chief
Jeanette Menig, Human Resources Director

Subject: Recognizing volunteer firefighters for service during COVID-19

History

The State of Michigan created the First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program (FRHPPP) by Public Act 123 and amended by Public Act 144 to reimburse for qualifying first responder hazard pay premiums provided to first responders who performed hazardous duty or work involving physical hardship related to COVID-19. Our application for this program was approved and the City will receive reimbursement of \$148,000 from the FRHPPP for the hazard payments to 148 employees who qualified based on their job classification.

On August 24, 2020 the Troy City Council approved similar hazard pay premiums for City of Troy employees who worked substantial hours in-person during the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order. Eligible employees will receive payments on October 9, 2020; the cost for this plan is \$115,000.

The City of Troy Fire Department continued to respond to calls for service, maintain their training requirements and provide essential fire services throughout the community during the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order. However, volunteer firefighters, due to their status as volunteers (not employees), were not eligible for FRHPPP or the City of Troy hazard pay premiums.

City Management desires to recognize the volunteer firefighters for their continued service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing the FY2020/21 station stipends.

Financial

Each of the six stations will receive a \$15,000 one-time increase to their station stipend, representing a 23% increase for the current fiscal year. The total cost to recognize the volunteer firefighters in this manner is \$90,000.

This one-time increase to the station stipends will require a budget amendment in the amount of \$90,000 for the General Fund under the Fire Department for the 2021 Fiscal Year. The expenditures will be charged to 101.336.340.7955.060.



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Recommendation

City management recommends approval to pursue a one-time increase to the fire station stipends with a maximum unreimbursed cost of \$90,000. It is also recommended that the City Council approve a budget amendment to the General Fund in the amount of \$90,000.

Legal Review

This item was submitted to the City Attorney for review pursuant to City Charter Section 3.17.