



Hamel Volunteer Fire Department

92 Hamel Road • Hamel, MN • 55340

Agenda Item 8B

July 1, 2019

TO: Ed Belland, Police Chief and Public Safety Director, City of Medina
Scott Johnson, City Administrator, City of Medina

SUBJECT: Fire Department Transition Study Group

This letter is in reference to discussions that took place during the Hamel Fire Department's Fire Advisory Board meeting of June 19th, 2019. The Hamel Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Board of Directors is requesting formation of a joint team with representatives of the City of Medina to investigate and determine the feasibility of transitioning Hamel Fire to a municipal fire department.

The Hamel Volunteer Fire Department has served the community for more than 87 years as an independent service provider. Currently, the Department provides emergency services to more than 75% of Medina, measured by property and population protected. As discussed in detail at the aforementioned meeting, the alignment of several factors impacting the fire service, such as the need for long-term investment decisions, form the basis of this request.

The Board recognizes and agrees that nothing in this request, or in the work product of the study group, would bind either party to any particular action or outcome, and that the status quo may continue regardless of recommendations. Regardless of the outcome, however, the benefits of this study will serve both organizations and help shape the course for the future of fire protection service in Medina.

The Hamel Fire representatives for this study would be Jeff Ruchti (President and Fire Chief) and Mario Fabrizio (Vice-President and Assistant Chief). We suggest the City of Medina also assign two representatives, specifically the Mayor and the Public Safety Liaison. They are members of the Fire Advisory Board and well versed in current matters. We believe that it should be the responsibility of the study group to develop an appropriate scope and time-line for its work. Further the group would be responsible for enlisting the aid and input from others as deemed appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and consideration. We look forward to working collectively and collaboratively in this endeavor.

Respectfully,

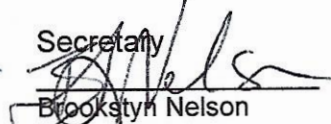
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