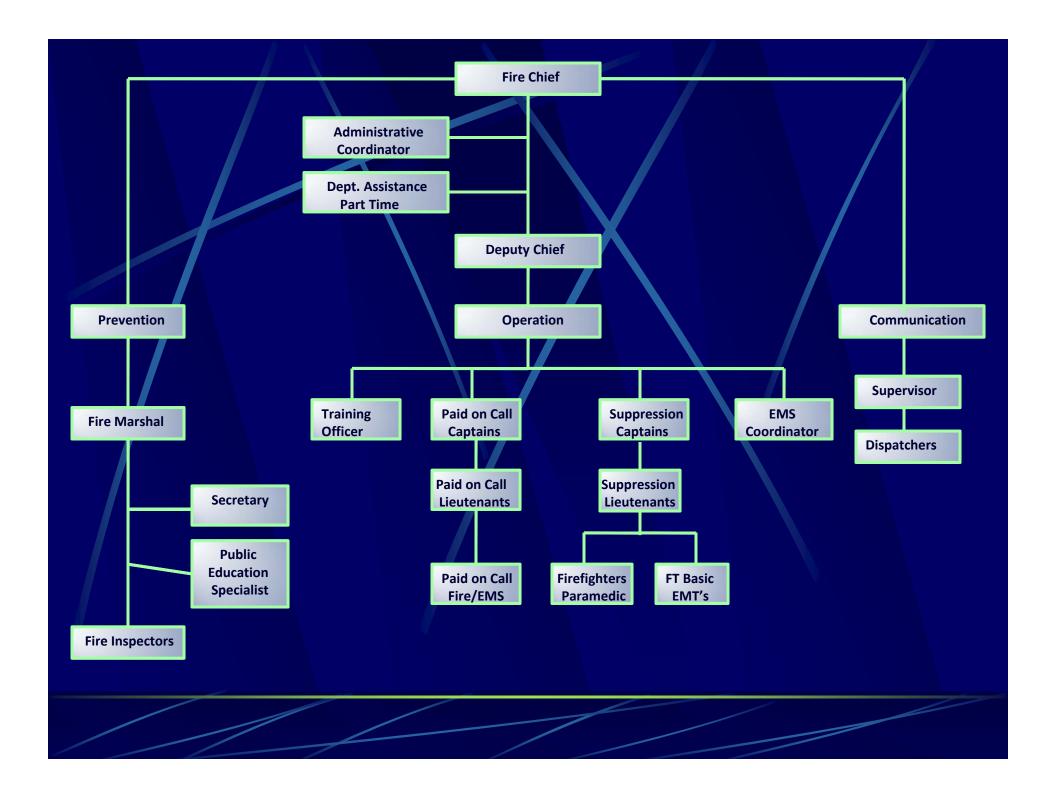
City of Rochester Hills

**Fire Department** 

August 17, 2009

City Council 2010-11 Budget Workshops



#### **Council Goals and Objectives**

#### Public Safety

- Monitor response times and make adjustments necessary.
- Annual EMS quality assurance
- Enhance Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid

#### Fiscal Management

- Evaluate Staffing Levels and adjust where possible.
- Effective Governance
  - When possible partner with Neighboring, County, and state Fire Department in cooperative purchases.

# **Council Goals and Objectives Continued**

- Community Trust and Participation
  - Surveys for responses and fire safety inspections.
  - Conduct informational meetings for businesses relating to fire safety of their business and common violations.
  - Improve the community events and awareness to the residents and businesses.

#### **Significant Revenue Changes**

- Taxes decreased (3.8%) or (\$250,030) reflecting reductions in taxable value.
- Charge for Service: Fire Protection increased [8.3% or \$5,000] due to the recent rise of Oakland Township calls dispatched
- Charge for Service: EMS Service increased 4.3% or \$50,000 reflecting recent trends.
- Interest Earnings decreased [(29%) / (\$40,000)] due to lower interest rates
- Transfer In: Retiree Health Care Trust Fund \$7,000 for the implicit rate subsidy reimbursement.

# **Significant Changes - ADMINISTRATION**

- MIS charges decreased \$18,150 due to a reduction in number of applications and less asset replacement charges.
- Facilities charges increased \$21,960 reflecting historical costs for operating and maintaining Fire Station #1 and the four (4) Fire Substations.
- Legal Fees were increased \$7,000 reflecting Firefighters Union contract ending in 2010.
- Transfer out to the Fire Capital Fund was put on hold in 2010 a \$343,420 savings to the operating fund. It was determined that the Fire Capital fund has reached its funding goals and no new funds are necessary at this time.

# **Significant Changes - FIRE SUPPRESSION**

- Clothing was decreased \$3,100 based on a historical trend.
- Tuition Refund has increased \$7,000 based on an anticipated usage of benefit.
- Operating Supplies was decreased \$3,000 reflecting historical trends
- Operating Equipment was decreased \$5,000 reflecting historical trends
- Maintenance on Vehicles was decreased \$2,050 reflecting fewer anticipated vehicle repairs.

# **Significant Changes - FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

- Tuition Refund was decreased \$2,000 based on employee feedback.
- Fleet Vehicle Charges were decreased by \$1,000 reflecting vehicles still under warranty.

#### **Significant Changes - TRAINING**

- Operating Supplies was decreased \$7,950 due to a major one time purchases of Firefighter Instruction Material made in 2009.
- Operating Equipment was decreased \$2,630 reflecting less need in 2010 than 2009.
- Professional Services was decreased \$1,800 based upon recent trends.
- Travel & Seminars was decreased \$6,200 reflecting our approach of finding lower cost alternatives through the State and Federal Government. In addition, an EMS Academy was developed through a cooperative partnership between seven area Fire Departments which helps lower our training costs.

### **Significant Changes - DISPATCH**

- The Communication Center was reorganized resulting in a reduction in Personnel Cost of \$56,040. The reorganization resulted in less overtime and the elimination of a Communications Coordinator position, which will be replaced with the addition of one Part-Time Dispatcher.
- Travel & Seminars for 911 Training was decreased \$3,000 reflecting the loss 911 funding.

# **Significant Changes - EMS DIVISION**

- Tuition Refund was increased \$1,300 to reflect anticipated usage
- Operating Supplies was increased \$3,000 to reflect recent usage trends and anticipated increase unit pricing
- Fleet Vehicle Charges was decreased \$15,000 to reflect new ambulances still under warranty.

# Significant Changes - Capital Fund

- Reduction of \$102,000 for purchases of two vehicles.
- Breathing Apparatus Test Unit \$24,000
- Deferred Fire Prevention Vehicle and Thermal Image Cameras based on use and mileage.

#### Conclusion

- The Fire Department is always looking for ways to deliver its services in the most cost effective manner without losing sight of its responsibility to protect the public in a safe and responsible way.
- We believe this approach is reflect in our proposed 2010 budget.

