
CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS

DATE: November 14, 2005

Fire
Department

TO: Public Safety Committee

RE: New Five-Year Plan

Ronald Crowell, Fire Chief

As you know, there have been discussions regarding the development and implementation of a new five-year plan by the Fire Department. At this time, I respectfully request that I be given the opportunity to have the 2006 budget year to develop this plan. Upon my assuming the position of Fire Chief in May 2005 and having to work under the previous Fire Chief's budget and operational plan, I am requesting some time to thoroughly evaluate the needs and operations of this organization before making significant recommendations.

I have included a brief summary of fire department plans during the 2006 budget year, and have highlighted some major events that will occur:

- Hiring of an EMS Coordinator. With most emergency calls being medical related and the ever-changing requirements placed on EMS personnel by the State, this position is essential for effective operations of the department.
- Hiring of six (6) full-time Firefighter/Paramedics. Rochester Hills is considered an Interim Agency with Oakland County Medical Control (OCMC). This means we can respond one Advanced Life Support (ALS) unit with a Paramedic and a Basic EMT. The Department has until August 2007 to become compliant with OCMC ALS Agency Status, which has two Paramedics on each ALS unit. These six Firefighter/Paramedics will allow us to meet this requirement and at the same time save in some overtime cost.
- Various department personnel will be monitoring development in the city and making suggestions for adjustments as needed. Upon the development of Waltonwood at Tienken & Rochester Road, along with "City Walk" and Papa Joes, it is anticipated that the northeast area will have significant increases in call volume.
- Upon the adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the city's model Incident Management System, the department will be working with staff and elected officials to provide training to be in total compliance by the end of 2006.

As always, the Fire Department will continue to evaluate the services we offer to enable us to provide the best emergency services possible to the community while being mindful of cost efficiency.

RC/dlh

c: Mayor Somerville