



City of Racine, Wisconsin
AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE:	July 6, 2023
SUBJECT:	Funding of Paramedic Training
PREPARED BY:	Fire Chief Steve Hansen
SUMMARY:	Communications sponsored by Alder West on behalf of the Fire Chief requesting permission to transfer \$50,000 from fire department account 13001-50300 to account 13001-53800 training.
PROJECT BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:	<p>The fire department is requesting the budget transfer to fund sending members of the department to paramedic training starting in August of 2023. During the recent hiring cycle the availability of paramedics to hire was extremely limited. Throughout SE Wisconsin we have seen a dramatic decline in the number of individuals attending technical colleges such as Gateway Technical College to receive paramedic training. Of the 22 individuals hired since August of 2022 none are Paramedic certified however they are Emergency Medical Technician certified which is a condition of employment. Other area fire departments in SE Wisconsin are also experiencing the same challenges of finding or hiring paramedic qualified individuals.</p> <p>As we move forward in time there is a significant need to train paramedics now and in the foreseeable future to have paramedics in the promotional pipeline when openings occur due to retirement, resignation or other vacancies. This transfer of funds within the current fire department budget will allow us to send up to five members with varying seniority to paramedic training starting in August 2023.</p>
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee is the finance director be authorized to transfer \$50,000 from 13001-50300 to account 13001-53800 for paramedic training.
FISCAL NOTE:	Budget neutral.