



RACINE FIRE DEPARTMENT
Chief's Office: 262-635-7911

November 16, 2011

Honorable Mayor
Common Council

Dear Honorable Mayor and Common Council:

Communication from the Fire Chief, requesting permission to accept a donation of \$30,000 from the Wheaton Franciscan/All Saints Foundation to support the costs associated with the paramedic program and Medical Direction. The donation will be passed along to RAMAC to be applied to the overall cost of the program as it is shared among several communities for a common goal.

Since the inception of the Paramedic Program, over 14 years ago, RAMAC has facilitated the contracting of services for Medical Direction and a Medical Control Doctor for several area fire departments. Medical Direction and a Medical Control doctor is necessary for the operation of the Paramedic program, since virtually everything we do involves advanced medical interventions and medicines that are not commonly available outside a hospital or clinic setting.

The cost of the medical direction program is developed by RAMAC, in close cooperation with the fire departments involved with RAMAC. The cost is then distributed over the fire departments based on population, run volume and equalized value. In the past, virtually the entire cost of medical direction was, in some fashion, placed on our respective tax levies. Wheaton Franciscan/All Saints Foundation has been extremely generous in making a commitment to fund approximately half of the Medical Direction costs for the next two years. Total value of the commitment is \$60,000.

The Fire Department will facilitate the acceptance of the exceptionally generous donation and pass this along to RAMAC to be applied to the cost of Medical Direction. When distributed over the fire departments who are participating in RAMAC EMS Medical Direction, the City will save approximately \$12,000 annually. This savings has already been built into the 2012 Fire Department budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Hansen,
Fire Chief