



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

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January 30, 2009

Honorable Mayor and  
Common Council

Dear Honorable Mayor and Common Council:

The Racine Fire Bells, Incorporated are a volunteer fire department support group that supports the City of Racine Fire Department during fires and other emergencies in the area. In addition, the Fire Bells support and maintain Engine House 3 Museum as a historical depository of fire department related artifacts from the history of fire fighting in Racine. Many of the artifacts within the museum are directly related to the early history of Racine with some artifacts going back to the 1860's. The centerpiece of the museum is the 1882 Clapp and Jones steam, horse-drawn pumper purchased by the City of Racine in 1882. The most recent artifact added to the museum are four (4) eight-foot sections of pristine wooden water supply pipes which were unearthed last summer during the construction work on Sixth Street. These wooden water pipes were laid in 1886-87, supplying drinking water along with water for fire protection to the early settlers of Racine.

This request is to renew the lease agreement with updated terms and conditions. The original lease was signed October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1976. We respectfully request permission that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the updated lease.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hansen, Fire Chief