



May 14, 2010

Communication from the Fire Chief requesting to transfer funds to acquire rugged computers for use with the Computer Aided Dispatch System.

The Fire Chief is requesting to transfer \$6,000 from Account 101.300.5650 Paramedic Training to Account 101.300.5820 Computer Hardware.

When the initial 2010 budget was prepared in late 2009 the fire department anticipated sending two members to Paramedic training for certification as paramedics on the Racine Fire Department. We learned in early 2010 that Gateway Technical College will not be offering a full time paramedic class that would allow our members to get in and out of class in six months. Since Gateway is not offering the paramedic class that would be compatible with the fire department work schedule we will not be sending members in 2010.

At the present time the fire department only has one rugged mobile computer deployed in the fire department command car which is known as Car 41. The on duty Battalion Chief uses this mobile computer daily to track fire department resources and also uses the mobile computer to assist in managing emergencies that occur throughout the city.

This request to transfer \$6,000 will allow the fire department to acquire two additional rugged laptop computers for deployment in fire department vehicles. Specifically one computer will go in the Fire Department Safety Officer's vehicle and the other will go in the Fire Chief's vehicle to allow both individuals to have real time information on fire department resources especially when additional emergency calls for service are initiated or dispatched. There is a critical need for both the Safety Officer and the Fire Chief to be able to see and manage emergency resources in real time. With the approval of this request the fire department will have three field deployed rugged computers.

The fire department has been in contact with Information Systems on the appropriate hardware and connectivity.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hansen, Fire Chief