



August 10, 2016

Honorable Mayor and Common Council

Dear Honorable Mayor and Common Council,

In 2002 and again in 2010 the Finance and Personnel Committee by way of resolution number 02-4453 and resolution 10-2051 approved Haz Mat team incentive pay for members of the Racine Fire Department who participate in the State of Wisconsin Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team network. The incentive pay or stipend is entirely covered by the State of Wisconsin with no local levy dollars used.

Since the inception of the contract with the State of Wisconsin to provide Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Responses the fire department has had a committee of team members in place to oversee the operation of the Haz Mat team. This committee oversees all aspects of team operation including command, control, training, outreach, equipment needs, and recertification of credentials. This is a voluntary position, and members of the committee are, by nature, high performers and very motivated.

It is my recommendation that members of the Haz Mat Committee should receive an increased incentive/stipend pay in recognition of their efforts to maintain a highly motivated and skilled Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. Their incentive pay would increase from \$900 annually to \$1000 annually. The Haz Mat Team Coordinator incentive pay would increase from \$900 annually to \$1,500 annually, and the Haz Mat Team Chief incentive pay will be \$3,000 annually. Both the Haz Mat team coordinator and the Haz Mat team chief attend many state meetings with Wisconsin Emergency Management in order to facilitate our role as a Regional Haz Mat team.

Full Scale Haz Mat Team Drills - Additional incentive pay for Haz Mat team members will be as follows: For attending at least three (3) full scale Haz Mat team drills annually from July 1 to June 30 of the following year they would receive an additional \$150 of incentive pay on top of their base Haz Mat stipend. For attending four (4) full scale Haz Mat team drills annually from July 1 to June 30 of the following year they would receive a total \$300 of incentive pay on top of their base Haz Mat stipend. These incentives are designed to encourage full participation in full scale drills that also insures full readiness and functionality of the Regional Haz Mat team members.

Fiscal Note: Total estimated cost of the additional incentive pay is \$3,500 annually and will be entirely funded from State Haz Mat funds. No local levy dollars will be utilized.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hansen, Fire Chief

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