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### Agenda Item

Fire Department 2026 Proposed Preliminary Budget & Fire Contracts

## **Meeting Date**

February 18, 2025

#### **Prepared By**

Leaha M. Jackson, City Administrator

# **Background**

It is time to look at setting the proposed 2026 budget (the final adoption is in the fall) so that the townships can set their 2026 levy. The department has been working hard to evaluate the expenses and keep them in line with the previous years while paying attention to what will be needed in the future.

The fire department would like to sign a three-year fire contract to help eliminate the need to rush this process each year. We would still need to watch the budget and ensure we fall within the parameters. We could explore moving to a three-year contract with a set annual increase (likely 3%) if there is some clause stating that if expenses exceed a specific percentage increase, we could renegotiate. The department will need to ensure that they are working within that annual increase.

The council also needs to set the annual meeting with the townships.

#### **Recommended Action**

Approve the proposed preliminary 2026 Budget & Fire Contract.

Approve the City's proposal to enter into a three-year contract with the townships with an annual increase of 3% each year with the above clause.

Approve setting the annual meeting with townships for February 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the public safety building.

Council Action:	Motion by:	Second by:	
Motion to:			
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Voted in Favor:		Voted Against:	
Approved:	Denied:	Tabled:	No Action: