
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Dave Schmidt, Fire Chief
Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Fire Department Management Services, City of Bethel
DATE: December 4th, 2023

OVERVIEW:

The cities of St. Francis and Bethel have been meeting over the last 18 months in regards to a gap in fire services in the City of Bethel. During this time the cities along with the State Dept of Public Safety have been meeting monthly to determine a short-term response and a way to solve a long-term concern.

This agreement is a reaction to meet short-term needs in fire services for the City of Bethel. St. Francis will move forward as the responsible department for Bethel and utilize their fire station and remaining equipment as necessary. If Bethel staff wish to join the St. Francis department they are encouraged to fill out an application.

Long-term needs will be vetted through an RFP looking at the overall health and organization of the two departments. This solution could include multiple scenarios, however through an organized process the cities will review what is the best solution to serve all residents through fire services and emergency responses.

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Council to review and approve the Agreement for Fire Department Management services with the City of Bethel.

Attachments:

- Agreement for the Fire Department Management Services between the City of Bethel, Minnesota and The City of St. Francis, Minnesota
- Exhibit A