



Fire Department

Charter Township of White Lake

To: Rik Kowall, Township Supervisor
From: J. David Feichtner, Fire Chief
Date: 7/29/26
Re: Fund balance transfer to overtime line item

As you are aware, the budget was prepared this year on a shortened timeline as well as some soft projections that were based upon previous budget inaccuracies. One of the affected lines was the OVERTIME line 206-336-709.000.

In the past, this line was balanced by moving money from one or more other lines rather than adjusting the allocated amount to more accurately reflect usage. This made predictions a bit more difficult.

This line item also was negatively impacted in ways which were not planned for as they were unexpected. The first, and largest impact, was the need to staff Station #3 continually. In the past it was only staffed when crews were available. If staff was not available, overtime was called for partial shifts. The residents in Station #3's area needed 24/7/365 coverage which was reinforced by a directive issued to the fire department from the Board. In order to meet this staffing requirement (coupled with contractual obligations for time off) overtime has been needed almost every day in order to staff that station.

The second impact on the line was the overtime caused by the individuals that were assigned to paramedic class as part of the directive to train more staff to achieve full Advanced Life Support (ALS) capabilities. We have four (4) people in training, which causes occasional overtime, but due to the first requirement to keep Station #3 open, their absence compounded the overtime costs.

The third impact was one that could not have been planned for in the budget. We have had three (3) people out on some sort of injury over the last few months. In August, we should get two (2) back but will also lose another member to a surgery which will keep him off for likely 5-6 months.

To this end and due to the aforementioned reasons, I am requesting a transfer of \$100,000 from the 206 fund balance (not the 04M fund) to the overtime line.

I have spoken to Mr. Whitt in Finance and per the audit, the fund balance was at \$3,672,227. We have allocated \$591,539 in the 2026 budget out of this fund, which means we should be just over \$3,000,000 left in the fund.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you.