

Proposal

Year 1 (2017-2018)

\$ 490,000.00
+180,000.00 for 3 additional firefighters
\$ 670,000.00 TOTAL

Year 2 (2018-2019)

\$ 670,000.00
+180,000.00 for 3 additional firefighters
\$ 850,000.00 TOTAL

Year 3 (2019-2020)

\$ 850,000.00
+ 90,000.00 for 1½ additional firefighters
\$ 940,000.00 TOTAL

Year 4 (2020-2021)

\$ 940,000.00 for 9 full-time firefighters + \$400,000.00
\$ 240,000.00 for the one time purchase of a pumper truck (½ the total cost)

Year 5 (2021-2022)

\$ 940,000.00 for 9 full-time firefighters + \$400,000.00
\$ 40,000.00 for new brush truck

Change the terms of the contract to allow for the hiring of 3 additional firefighters at the County's expense. This would be a total of 4½ firefighters. The City would agree to send a minimum of 4 firefighters on 2 trucks to structure fires in the County starting in Year 1 and continuing through Year 5.

History of Mt. Pleasant and Titus County Fire Departments

In 1986, Titus County paid \$30,000 annually to the city of Mt. Pleasant; MPFD's annual budget was \$250,000; the City requested an increase to \$135,000. The County decided to form a County fire department but quickly realized the problems and cost of independence. Ultimately the agreement was for a \$125,000 payment over a 4-year stair-step plan.

In 1994, the County was still paying \$125,000; MPFD's annual budget was \$812,000; the City asked for 33% of that budget, or \$267,836. A one-year deal was agreed on at \$155,000.

In 1995, a consultant (hired by the City and County) study stated, "The City does not have enough personnel to fight structural fires in the County and still have the people to respond within the City. There seems to be a very clear inequity. It seems those living in the City are paying more for fire protection than those living outside the City." After heated discussions, in July 1995, the City and County agreed to a \$225,000 annual contract for five years with an annual increase of \$23,000 topping out at \$325,000. At that time, the City's annual fire budget was \$800,000.

The 2016-17 City fire department budget is \$2,641,963. The County contributes \$490,000 with annual CPI adjustments which have been minimal in recent years. At present, slightly less than 50% of the City calls are outside the City limits but slightly more than 50% of the man-hours are spent on County calls.