

Resolution No.: 18-463
Introduced: April 19, 2016
Adopted: April 26, 2016

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Agreement with Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (MCVFRA)

Background

1. County Code Section 21-6 establishes a process for Local Fire and Rescue Departments (LFRD's) to select an authorized representative to represent their interests, and requires the Fire Chief to negotiate in good faith with the authorized representative on certain issues affecting LFRD's and their volunteers.
2. The LFRD's selected the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (MCVFRA) to be their authorized representative.
3. On April 4, 2016, the Council received from the County Executive the attached Memorandum of Agreement between Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association for the period from July 1, 2014, until June 30, 2017.
4. Code Section 21-6(p) requires the Executive to submit to the Council any element of an agreement that requires an appropriation of funds, may have a future fiscal impact, is inconsistent with any County law or regulation, or requires the enactment or adoption of any County law or regulation. Section 21-6(q) directs the Council to notify the parties within 60 days if it disapproves an agreement in whole or in or part. The Council may by resolution extend the time for action.
5. The Public Safety Committee reviewed and made recommendations on each of the portions of the Memorandum of Agreement requiring an appropriation of funds for FY17 on April 21.

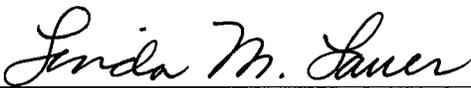
Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Council approves the following provisions of the Agreement for FY2017:

1. Article 11 – Upgraded Uniforms and Equipment for active volunteers.
2. Article 12 – Option 1 nominal fee of \$425 and an Option 2 nominal fee of \$625 for active volunteers, effective July 1, 2016.
3. Funding for training up to \$15,000.
4. Volunteer Basic Orientation Course funding up to \$18,000.
5. Side letter/MOU - \$242,103 for MCVFRA operating expenses.
6. Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) funded at \$1,103,300 for FY2017.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

**NEGOTIATED ECONOMIC CHANGES
FOR FY17 FROM THE
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE
RESCUE ASSOCIATION
JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017**

The Montgomery County Government (County) and the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association (MCFRA) during term bargaining negotiated economic changes for Fiscal Year 2017 listed below to be effective July 1, 2016.

* * *

Article 12

NOMINAL FEE

An active volunteer as defined in Section 21-21 (a) of the Montgomery County Code shall receive either:

- (1) a nominal fee of: three hundred (\$300.00) dollars on July 1, 2014, three hundred fifty (\$350.00) dollars on July 1, 2015, and four hundred twenty-five (\$425.00) dollars on July 1, 2016.

OR

- (2) a nominal fee of: five hundred (\$500.00) dollars July 1, 2014, six hundred (\$600.00) dollars on July 1, 2015, and six hundred twenty five (\$625.00) dollars on July 1, 2016; if the active volunteer:

* * *

Article 16

TRAINING

* * *

Section Eight. The County agrees to provide funding, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per each year of this agreement, to pay certification fees charged by the Maryland Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board. Individual volunteers must demonstrate that they meet the requirements for certification before certification fees will be paid by the County. The County will pay certification fees on a first come, first served basis to eligible volunteers until the \$5,000 allocation is depleted.

Section Nine.

- a. The County will offer training opportunities that focus on volunteers in order to improve performance, build cohesiveness in the volunteer ranks and advance volunteer promotion in rank.
- b. The training offered may include:
 1. Live firefighting, pulling lines, and throwing of ladders;
 2. Handling mass casualty incidents;

3. Driver training;
 4. Engine Company operations, Truck Company operations, Rescue Squad operations, and EMS; and
 5. Command officer training to include use of the command competencies lab.
- C. Each training session must meet minimum student participation levels as agreed upon by the Fire Chief, or designee, and the MCVFRA. The training specified herein is in addition to normally scheduled and funded courses and is specific to volunteer needs and hours. This training will be coordinated by the MCVFRA and Fire Chief, or designee. All efforts will be made to use qualified volunteer instructors.
- D. Total expenditures will be limited to a maximum of \$10,000 per year of this agreement to fund the training opportunities required by this section.

* * *

Article 22

VOLUNTEER BASIC ORIENTATION COURSE

Section One. The County agrees to fund the Volunteer Basic Orientation Course \$9,000 on July 1 each year of the agreement. Additional funding not to exceed \$9,000 would be available for reimbursement, for a total available funding of \$18,000 each year. The funding requests will be submitted to the fire chief and/or designee for reimbursement each quarter with appropriate cost documentation.

* * *

Article 25

LOSAP

Section One. The parties agree to begin bargaining on or before June 1, 2015 on length of service modifications. If no agreement is reached by July 31, 2015, the parties shall utilize the impasse procedure as per the Montgomery County Code Section 21-6.

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Side Letter

ASSOCIATION FUNDING AND VEHICLE

Marcine Goodloe
 President
 MCVFRA

Dear President Goodloe:

The County agrees to transfer \$235,000 to the MCVFRA on July 1, 2014. On July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016, the County agrees to increase the funding to the MCVFRA by 1.5% each year. The MCVFRA agrees to utilize the funds in the payment of expenses related to the Association's fulfillment of its functions as the LFRD authorized representative. The Associations agrees to continue to provide the Fire Chief or his designee with a quarterly accounting detailing the expenditure of said funds.

Additionally, funding for a new Association vehicle will not be paid during the length of this contract.

Sincerely,

Steve Lohr
Fire Chief
MCFRS

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