City Council Staff Report

Council Meeting Date

- August 25, 2026

Staff Resource(s)

- Mike Cayse, Fire Chief
- Chris Budzinski, Deputy Fire Chief
- Jessica Hughes, Fire Administration and Financial Business Manager

Action Requested

- Adoption of a resolution ratifying the renewal of the automatic aid agreement between the City of Asheville and Reems Creek Fire Department.

Background

- In August 2013, City Council approved a resolution authorizing a multi-year agreement with Reem's Creek Fire Department for automatic aid service.
- This agreement allows the City of Asheville to strengthen its standard of response and cover in the Beaverdam Valley, with the Reem's Creek Fire Department as the most appropriate organization to provide the service.
- The initial agreement costs were $82,656 and as stipulated in the agreement, the costs are to be adjusted every year based on the consumer price index.
- On June 9, 2026 Asheville City Council adopted resolution 26-110 authorizing the City Manager to enter into this renewal agreement for $118,658.23.
- Since the June Council approval, a new consumer price index (CPI) increase has gone into effect for July 2026.
- Because of the CPI increase, the cost of services for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 renewal has increased from $118,658.23 to $121,105.99, requiring an amendment to the previously authorized renewal agreement.
- Pursuant to City policy, contracts and agreements valued at $90,000 or above require approval from City Council.
- Because the previously adopted resolution 26-110 only authorized a renewal agreement for up to $118,658.23, a new resolution is required to authorize an amendment to the renewal agreement reflecting the increased value of $121,105.99
- The term of the renewal agreement will end June 30, 2027.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- No other vendors are able to provide this service.
- There are no Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) firms able to provide this service.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- A clean, safe, and healthy environment

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- People; Infrastructure & Environment

Committee(s):

- N/A

Fiscal Impact

- Funding for this agreement is available in the Fire Department's operating budget.

Suggested Motion

- Motion to adopt a resolution ratifying the renewal agreement for automatic aid service between the City of Asheville and Reems Creek Fire Department in an amount of $121,105.99.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution ratifying the agreement for renewal of the automatic aid service between the City of Asheville and Reems Creek Fire Department.

Whereas, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-20.1, the City of Asheville has the authority to contract with and appropriate money to any person, association, or corporation in order to carry out any public purpose that the city is authorized by law to engage in, including the provision of fire protection services; and

Whereas, the City of Asheville has a need to strengthen its standard of fire response cover in Beaverdam Valley and provide for automatic aid response; and

Whereas, the City Council approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an automatic aid service agreement with Reem's Creek Fire Department on August 13, 2013; and

Whereas, the agreement is up for its annual renewal at a cost of $121,105.99; and

Whereas, the City wishes to continue the automatic aid agreement with Reem's Creek Fire District for response within the City of Asheville.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Asheville that:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to ratify the renewal agreement for automatic aid service between the City of Asheville and Reems Creek Fire Department at a cost of $121,105.99 for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

Read, approved and adopted this 25th day of August, 2026.

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Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk