MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Mark E. Biberdorf, Town Manager MEB

COPY TO: Heather Taylor, Assistant Town Manager

DATE: May 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Contract Discussions with Fletcher Fire & Rescue

In the Town's ongoing discussions with the Fletcher Fire & Rescue Board, several revisions have been considered to the current contract for fire protection services. I have attached for Council's reference the last version of the contract that was sent from the Fire Board in April. I have also attached a highlighted version of the suggested revisions that were sent back from Town Council to the Fire Board for their consideration in May.

The recent feedback from the Fire Board is centering around the following sections of the contract:

- Section 2 – The request for additional funding to support maintaining or increasing the fire rating. The process for determining how this is decided and its impact on funding is still undetermined per the terms of the agreement.
- Section 5 – The process by which public access and input at monthly Fire Board meetings is allowed is still undetermined and not agreed upon by both parties.
- Section 15 – The cost for workers compensation insurance coverage is currently provided by the County through the "Volunteer Safety Workers' Compensation Fund". The Fire Board would like the Town to agree to provide funding for workers compensation coverage in the event the County no longer does.

In light of the above described issues, Council can continue discussions with the Fire Board in one of two ways. You could continue to meet through the previous committee method that was established to discuss a revised agreement. The other way would be to continue to send revisions back and forth with some explanation for the Town's stance on the specific issue. This could also involve closed session discussions as need be for negotiation of sensitive terms or position of the Town.

If you should have any questions regarding this item prior to the Agenda Review meeting, please feel free to contact me.

MEB/meb

Attachments