

VERNON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT
Updated Funding Concept
ATTACHMENT 2

RECOMMENDATION: PURSUE FIRE TERRITORY

The Vernon Township Board, McCordsville Town Council and Fortville Town Council will make a decision on the direction of fire protection.

Option A: Status Quo

- Struggling to maintain part-time and paid-per-run structure for 24/7 coverage at Station #3 (Fortville) with back-up paid-per-run at Station #8 (McCordsville)
- Unsustainable beyond 2 years (possibly less due to COVID 19 tax implications)
- Option to turn fire and EMS protection back to the two towns

Option B: Basic Fire Territory or Special Legislation Replacement

- Evolve from existing and unsustainable volunteer funding situation
- Model Buck Creek Fire Department funding
- Sustainable 24/7 on station manpower coverage for one station
- Professional management model; still requires part-time and paid per run firefighters and medics
- Includes Fire Marshal and Fire Admin
- Manpower to support 1 Ambulance and 1 Fire Engine
- May allow improvements in manpower on station in McCordsville but doesn't fully fund second station model
- Find land and develop 24/7 station plan for McCordsville. Need overnight option.
- Engage the Town of McCordsville and Town of Fortville to become a Fire Territory with supporting budget.

Option C: More Robust Fire Territory

- This is not Phase II in the original plan. This is an enhanced version of Option B.
- Funding for 2 stations; full time on station manpower coverage
- Professional management with primarily full-time firefighters and medics
- Includes Fire Marshal and Fire Admin.
- Manpower to support 1 Ambulance and 2 Fire Engines
- Find land and develop 24/7 station plan for McCordsville. Need short-term overnight option before new station is built.
- Engage the Town of McCordsville and Town of Fortville to become a Fire Territory with supporting budget.

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Potential Additions for 2020-2023

Green Township, Madison County Contract – House Bill 1065 (Requested)

AFG Grant – Air Packs (Applied)

Firehouse Subs Grant – Extrication equipment (Applied)

SAFER Grant – 2-year manpower partial funding; must be able to sustain 3rd year of manpower independently (Application opens 4/13/2020)

Cum Fund Renewal – Apparatus and Equipment (Pending process)

Property Sale/Lease – Assessing options (In process)

Grants for Training Aids – Assessing options (In process)

Future

It is unlikely that Option B or C will provide the long-term funding that we need to be sustainable in the long term.

Ultimately, we will likely need to consider population growth, industrial base and natural alliances in a larger territory like the Plainfield territory model.