



Regular Town Hall Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting

3820 40th Avenue Cottage City, Maryland 20722

This meeting will be hosted on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573671277?pwd=Unl6eEJrNTVoNjFmTHIJLzViZlITdz09>

Phone: 301-715-8592 | Meeting ID: 825 7367 1277 | Passcode: 361522

Call to Order and Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. Public Safety Report
2. Public Works Report (Verbal)
3. Approval of Financials
4. No Meeting Minutes For The Month of January

Commissioner Reports

5. Ward 1
6. Ward 2
7. Ward 3
8. Ward 4
9. At-Large Report

Old Business

10. Resolution 2025-02: Town of Cottage City Organizational Chart (Commission Vote)
11. Resolution 2025-03: Essential Staffing (Commission Vote)
12. Priorities Reminder

New Business

13. Salt Spreader Quote (Commission Vote)
14. Brentwood Volunteer Firefighters (Commission Discussion)
15. Emerson House & Parkview Shuttle Pick-Up Request For BHM Program (Commission Consensus)

Town Manager Update

16. Town Manager Update

1. Bobcat Tire Replacement Quote
2. 43rd Avenue Stormwater Update
3. PEPCO Streetlights
4. Bladensburg / Cottage City Bridge Lights

Public Comment

17. Anyone seeking to speak under Public Comments must sign in prior to the end of the Town Meeting. There is a 3-minute time limit. When you come up to speak, you will need to state your name, address, what organization that you represent and your topic of concern(s).

Motion To Go Into Closed Session

18. Motion To Go Into Closed Session

This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only: (1)___“To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals”; (7)___“To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice”.

The Commission plans to go into a closed session to discuss code compliance and grant expenditures with employees and the commission.

All meetings are subject to closure pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Act: Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article Section 10-508(a), the Council by majority vote may retire to executive or closed session at any time during the meeting. Should the Commission retire to executive or closed session the Chair will announce the reasons and a report will be issued at a future meeting disclosing the reasons for such closed session.

COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report



January, 2025

“To Protect and Serve”

CHIEF OF POLICE

COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls Handled

January

911 Disconnect	4
Accident	1
Animal Complaint	2
Assault	2
Assist	3
Check Welfare	3
Check Welfare Combined	2
Disorderly	6
Fraud	1
Lockout	2
Misc Police Incident	9
Noise Complaint	1
Premise Check	4
Property Damage	1
Shooting Combined	1
Subject Stop	1
Suspicious Auto	5
Suspicious Occ Auto	2
Suspicious Person	1
Text Request For Emergency Services	1
Theft From Auto	2
Theft J O	1
Theft Report	1
Traffic Complaint	2
Trespassing Complaint	1
Unknown Trouble	1
Vehicle Accident Combined	3
Total	63

COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMPLAINTS/CRISIS HANDLED

The Cottage City Police Department gave copies of the Maryland law to our officers on what information we can and can't share with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

We also created pocket information cards for our residents regarding their rights should they have an encounter with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

PROJECTS

COMPLETED EVENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS PREPARATION

January Events:

- No. Events.

February Events:

- Senior Bingo

TRAINING

- CCPD Training (January 23, 2025)

UPCOMING TRAINING

- Field Training Refresher (February 13, 2025)
 - o Sgt. Hayes
- CCPD Training (February 27, 2025)

CCPD EXPLORERS

Meetings and training during the month.

COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

CODE COMPLIANCE

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2025

	TOTAL	
	AS OF JAN 31, 2025	AS OF JAN 31, 2024 (PY)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
1006 Truist Checking x4589	0.00	0.00
1009 Truist Savings x1643	303,158.96	648,852.48
1010 Savings - Capital One	5,190.69	5,186.68
1014 US Bank x5954	13,775.00	15,200.00
1015 Petty Cash Fund	466.03	450.00
1055 Savings - PNC	738,163.20	698,100.70
1060 Truist MM x4603	101,954.50	101,944.30
1061 Truist Operating Checking x1118	325,393.75	794,970.98
1062 Truist Public Fund Checking x6369	208.46	668.39
1063 Truist Public Fund Checking x0549	0.00	1,241.69
1065 Capital One CD	98,967.97	98,967.97
1072 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	-747.00	7,477.96
1100 Truist - ARPA x0408	0.00	330,815.15
Total Bank Accounts	\$1,586,531.56	\$2,703,876.30
Accounts Receivable	\$90,778.97	\$76,106.22
Other Current Assets	\$55,667.00	\$57,970.18
Total Current Assets	\$1,732,977.53	\$2,837,952.70
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,732,977.53	\$2,837,952.70
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,732,977.53	\$2,837,952.70

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Budget vs. Actuals: FY25

July 2024 - January 2025

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income		
4000 Operating Revenue		
4005 Real Estate Taxes - Residential	416,124.71	430,069.00
4006 Real Estate Taxes - Commercial	328,110.36	339,519.00
4015 Personal Property Taxes	34,532.02	40,000.00
4025 Income Tax	53,903.02	105,000.00
4030 Highway User Tax	28,169.34	54,311.00
4035 Fines & Forfeitures	4,207.00	4,000.00
4040 Red Light Camera Fines	26,906.19	300,000.00
4041 Speed Camera Fines	220,619.42	245,000.00
4055 Franchise Fees (Cable TV)	9,687.10	18,000.00
4065 Licenses - Town	4,149.09	6,000.00
4075 Permits		1,000.00
4080 County Disposal Rebate		3,440.00
4085 Police Aid	17,912.00	26,550.00
4095 Interest Income	24,348.28	10,000.00
4100 Public Works - Abatements		2,000.00
4102 Town Hall Rental	1,050.00	1,800.00
4106 Solar Renewable Energy Credits		6,075.00
4107.1 Donations	1,600.00	3,000.00
4200 Miscellaneous	3,357.45	
Total 4000 Operating Revenue	1,174,675.98	1,595,764.00
4106.5 Grant Revenue		
41040 Bond Bill		500,000.00
4109 Maryland Heritage Authority (MHAA)		45,000.00
4110 Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)		100,000.00
4112 PD Accountability Program	8,737.98	
4114 First Responder Camp/Community	10,855.71	10,500.00
4120 CDBG Grant - Infrastructure	37,257.25	753,225.00
4130 Cable - PEG - Broadcast Equip.	3,619.50	10,570.00
4141 MD DHCH - NED Grant		185,000.00
4144 Fed-Stormwater		670,000.00
4146 Community Engagement and Outreach Initiative	18,105.40	35,000.00
Total 4106.5 Grant Revenue	78,575.84	2,309,295.00
4201 Appropriated from Fund Balance		1,730,000.00
4202 Appropriated from Fund Balance ARPA		254,000.00
Total Income	\$1,253,251.82	\$5,889,059.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,253,251.82	\$5,889,059.00
Expenses		
5000 General Government		
5005 Salaries	68,521.63	140,000.00
5006 Overtime		2,500.00
5010 Commissioner Salaries	19,969.22	31,400.00

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Budget vs. Actuals: FY25

July 2024 - January 2025

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total 5005 Salaries	88,490.85	173,900.00
5007 Temp Services	11,384.52	
5015 Payroll Taxes	6,978.83	11,200.00
5020 Life Insurance	954.90	4,000.00
5025 Health Insurance	5,586.49	24,000.00
5030 Retirement Benefits		7,000.00
5035 Workers Comp Ins.	1,438.64	1,700.00
5040 Audit Fee	14,144.30	12,000.00
5045 Bus Service	1,100.00	13,000.00
5065 Community Enhancement	2,000.00	
5065.3 End Time Harvest Ministries		2,000.00
5065.4 Cottage City Scholarship		2,500.00
5065.5 Anacostia Watershed Donation		1,000.00
5065.6 Contribution to ATHA		1,000.00
5065.7 Fire Dept. Donation		1,000.00
5065.71 Green Team		1,200.00
5065.73 Food Pantry		5,000.00
5065.9 Summer Camp		900.00
Total 5065 Community Enhancement	2,000.00	14,600.00
5070 Community Garden	950.57	3,500.00
5085 Contractual Services (Accounting Fees)	23,420.04	34,000.00
5086 Cell Phone	232.61	1,000.00
5087 Codification Services	995.00	2,000.00
5090 Election Expenses		1,200.00
5100 Insurance - Gen. & Public Offic	2,596.00	4,000.00
5105 Insurance - Town Hall		1,000.00
5107 IT Support	8,369.09	12,000.00
5115 Legal Fees	13,948.00	66,000.00
5120 Miscellaneous	1,773.04	1,500.00
5125 Membership Dues	2,185.71	2,400.00
5130 Commissioner Municipal Convention & Conf.		14,700.00
5135 Office Expense	17,261.59	26,000.00
5140 Printing & Legal Ads	635.32	1,000.00
5150 Special Events		
5150.1 Arts & Education		2,500.00
5150.10 Port Towns Meeting		300.00
5150.11 Adult Mixer	630.33	500.00
5150.12 English Classes		2,000.00
5150.13 Black History Month		800.00
5150.14 Hispanic Heritage Month		800.00
5150.15 Woman's History Month		800.00
5150.16 Native American Heritage Event	114.00	600.00
5150.18 Port Towns Legislative Dinner		300.00

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Budget vs. Actuals: FY25

July 2024 - January 2025

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
5150.19 PGCMA - Town Sponsored Mtg		100.00
5150.2 Easter Egg Hunt		800.00
5150.20 PGEMW - Town Sponsored Mtg		100.00
5150.22 Juneteenth		300.00
5150.3 Cottage City Day	18,117.25	12,000.00
5150.4 Halloween	425.95	750.00
5150.5 Breakfast with Santa	1,341.56	1,400.00
5150.55 July 4th Event		300.00
5150.6 Community Block Parties		1,000.00
5150.7 Refreshments	701.74	1,000.00
5150.8 Senior Harvest Dinner	735.18	500.00
5150.81 Seniors Camp		500.00
5150.9 Winter Employee Appreciation		2,000.00
Total 5150 Special Events	22,066.01	29,350.00
5160 Town Communications	4,744.02	8,000.00
5165 Town Hall Maintenance & Repairs	6,616.44	12,000.00
5170 Town Hall Utilities	17,366.30	21,500.00
5175 Staff Training	4,082.62	4,000.00
5180 Treasurer's Bond		175.00
5196 Website Hosting	11,949.20	5,200.00
Total 5000 General Government	271,270.09	511,925.00
5200 Public Works		
5205 Salaries	81,492.75	200,000.00
5206 Overtime	287.28	5,000.00
Total 5205 Salaries	81,780.03	205,000.00
5210 Payroll Taxes	8,044.30	16,000.00
5211 Health Insurance	7,894.57	10,500.00
5212 Life Insurance	949.41	1,450.00
5213 Retirement Benefits		10,500.00
5215 Workers Comp Ins.	8,487.40	22,000.00
5230 Equipment Maint & Operating Exp	7,400.11	20,000.00
5232 Gasoline	3,520.62	8,000.00
5235 Highway Lighting	9,567.14	24,000.00
5237 MML & Training Expenses	1,570.90	2,000.00
5240 Abatements		2,000.00
5241 Cell Phone	2,354.85	500.00
5260 Roadway/Sidewalk Const. Maint. & Supplies	17,960.00	7,500.00
5271 Maintenance	21,481.06	15,000.00
5272 Tree Maintenance	4,813.00	10,000.00
5280 Uniforms		800.00
5285 Vehicle Insurance	4,500.00	3,500.00
5287 Truck Maintenance	4,405.77	5,000.00
5305 Dumping Fees	20.00	2,400.00

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Budget vs. Actuals: FY25

July 2024 - January 2025

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
5315 Mosquito Control	194.13	2,300.00
5320 Waste Collection & Disposal	50,631.70	118,100.00
5322 Code Software		3,500.00
Total 5200 Public Works	235,574.99	490,050.00
5400 Police Department		
5405 Salaries	205,666.87	366,000.00
5406 Overtime	261.77	10,000.00
Total 5405 Salaries	205,928.64	376,000.00
5415 Payroll Taxes	12,778.51	32,495.00
5420 Life Insurance	4,424.70	4,500.00
5425 Health Insurance	24,114.77	41,000.00
5430 Retirement		17,500.00
5435 Workers Comp Ins.	26,366.96	28,000.00
5440 Applicant Screening & Shots		1,000.00
5445 Auto Insurance	25,151.00	20,000.00
5478 Legal		3,000.00
5485 National Night Out	268.78	1,000.00
5490 Office Expense & Operating Cost	14,630.75	12,000.00
5495 Police Liability Insurance	11,500.00	11,500.00
5500 Police Supplies	200.60	2,000.00
5505 Training	1,557.31	6,000.00
5506 Training - Police Chief	1,896.80	6,000.00
5515 Uniforms & Accessories	2,525.31	12,000.00
5520 Vehicle Operation & Maintenance	899.68	15,000.00
5525 Gasoline - PD	7,558.62	21,500.00
5534 Police Community Outreach	3,850.83	8,000.00
5537 Lexipol Law Enforcement	434.65	4,413.00
5538 Police Explorer Program	975.05	5,000.00
5539 SilverTrac	2,835.00	2,160.00
5540 Axion Tasers	3,689.14	10,000.00
5541 In Car Camera Upgrades	1,636.00	2,700.00
5542 Lefta System		2,200.00
5543 Obvio		8,500.00
5555 Expenses to Speed Camera Program		-180,700.00
5560 Red Light Camera Program		152,000.00
5600 Speed Camera		
5600.1 Salaries		107,000.00
5600.2 Benefits		26,400.00
5600.3 Other Costs		35,200.00
5600.4 Vehicles		12,100.00
5600.5 Speed Camera Vendor Fees		98,000.00
Total 5600 Speed Camera		278,700.00
Total 5400 Police Department	353,223.10	903,468.00

Town of Cottage City

Item # 3.

Budget vs. Actuals: FY25

July 2024 - January 2025

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
6000 Grant Expenditures		
6002 MD DHCD - NED Grant		185,000.00
6006 DHCD - Community Surveillance Project	11,889.25	
6010 CDBG Grant - Infrastructure	293,477.78	753,225.00
6014 First Responder Camp/Community		10,500.00
6016 Maryland Heritage Authority (MHAA)		90,000.00
6017 Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)		100,000.00
6018 Community Engagement and Outreach Initiative	12,203.99	35,000.00
6021 Cable - PEG - Broadcast Equip	8,411.82	10,570.00
6044 Fed-Stormwater	925.00	670,000.00
6052 Bond Bill Expenses Firehouse	29,200.00	500,000.00
6054 ARPA Grant Expense	52,661.72	
6054.1 Family Relief Program	22,183.91	30,000.00
6054.15 ARPA Food Bank	8,906.60	15,000.00
6054.7 Grant Writer Salary	40,844.92	65,000.00
6054.8 Grant Writer Fringe	10,032.84	24,250.00
Total 6054 ARPA Grant Expense	134,629.99	134,250.00
Total 6000 Grant Expenditures	490,737.83	2,488,545.00
6500 Capital Outlays		
6501 General Government Capital Outlays		
6505 Capital Equipment		11,000.00
6507 Town Hall Improvements		26,000.00
6511 Maryland Heritage Authority Match (MHAA)		90,000.00
6512 Maryland Historical Trust Match (MHT)		100,000.00
Total 6501 General Government Capital Outlays		227,000.00
6600 Public Works Capital Outlays		
6606 Facility Maintenance	2,738.20	7,500.00
6607 PW New Equipment		11,000.00
6615 Street Maintenance	401.03	12,500.00
Total 6600 Public Works Capital Outlays	3,139.23	31,000.00
6700 Police Capital Outlays		
6701 Capital Outlays - Police Dept	23,055.90	18,200.00
Total 6700 Police Capital Outlays	23,055.90	18,200.00
Total 6500 Capital Outlays	26,195.13	276,200.00
Uncategorized Expense	9,616.60	
Total Expenses	\$1,386,617.74	\$4,670,188.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -133,365.92	\$1,218,871.00
NET INCOME	\$ -133,365.92	\$1,218,871.00

TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY
RESOLUTION 2025-02

Item # 10.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY ADOPTING A NEW TOWN
GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

Introduced by: Town of Cottage City Commission

WHEREAS, Section 58 of the Town Charter (Authority To Employ Personnel) states that the Town may employ such officers and employees as it deems necessary to execute the powers and duties provided by this charter or other State law and to operate the town government; and

WHEREAS, Section 60 of the Town Charter (Unclassified and Classified Service) states that the civil service of the Town shall be divided into the unclassified and classified service, and the unclassified service shall comprise the following offices and positions, the commissioners; the clerk-treasurer (if any), town manager and the town attorney; the heads of all offices, departments, and agencies and members of the town boards and commissions; Part-time, temporary, and unpaid offices and positions; Part-time, temporary, and unpaid offices and positions, which shall not be included within the merit system; and

WHEREAS, the Commission wishes to reflect the structure of the Town set out in the town Charter and Code showing the offices, departments and positions as outlined in the organizational chart, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED that the Cottage City Commission hereby adopts the following Organizational Chart for the Town of Cottage City:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Cottage City Commission that this Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

INTRODUCED by the Cottage City Commission at a meeting held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

PASSED by the Cottage City Commission at a Meeting held on February 12, 2025.

ATTEST: TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY, MARYLAND

John Hoatson, Town Manager

By: _____
Wanda Wheatley, Commissioner-Chair

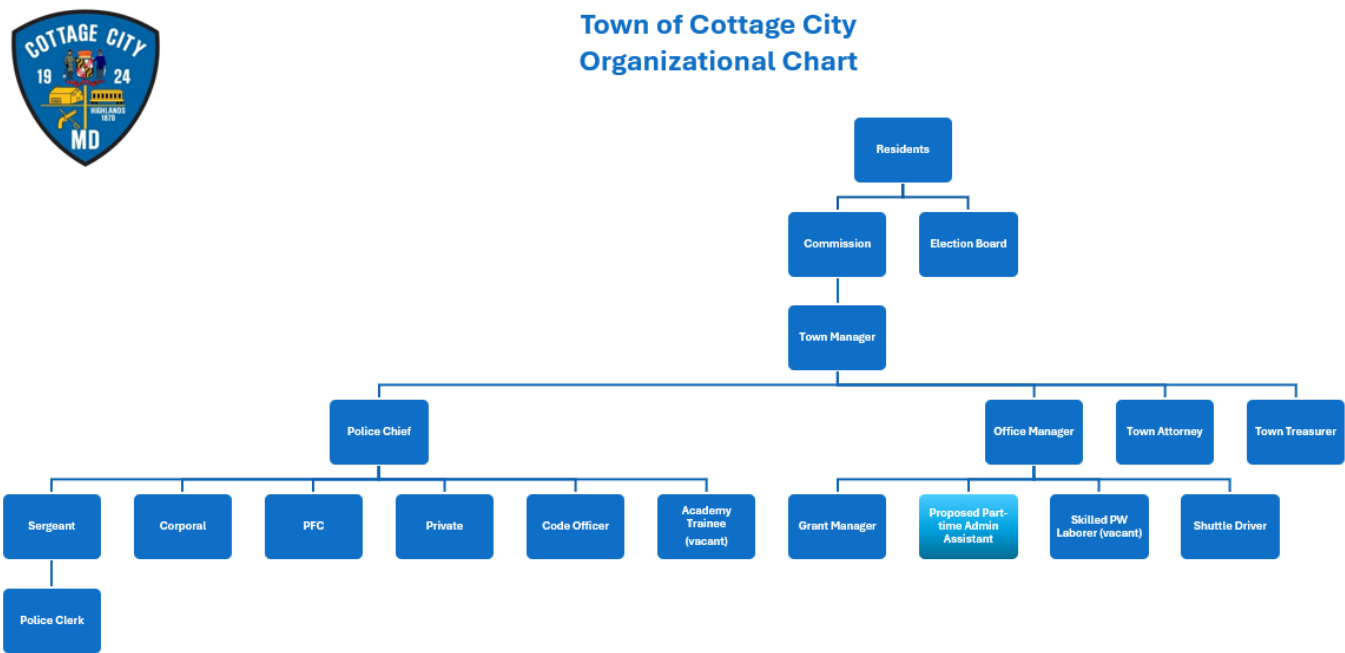
CERTIFICATION

I, HEREBY CERTIFY, as the duly appointed Town Manager of the Town of Cottage City, Maryland, that on the 12th Day of February, 2025 with ___ Aye votes and ___ Nay votes, the aforesaid Resolution 2025-02 passed.

John Hoatson, Town Manager

TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY
RESOLUTION 2025-02

Exhibit A



TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY
RESOLUTION 2025-03

Item # 11.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COTTAGE CITY COMMISSION ESTABLISHING
ESSENTIAL STAFFING & MODIFIED SCHEDULES DURING TIMES OF NEED OR
EXIGENCY**

Introduced by: Town of Cottage City Commission

WHEREAS, the Town of Cottage City from time to time will require essential staff to report to work to address needs within the Town; and

WHEREAS, additional essential workers may be identified by the Commission along with the Town Manager; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager has the authority to modify work schedules as necessary to support the various needs of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Cottage City Police Department and Public Works employees are considered essential staff within the Town and can be called upon at any time to work during all weather conditions and/or during emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED that the Cottage City Commission hereby adopts the following policy:

1. The Town Manager will work with the Chief of Police / Public Works to make sure work schedules are modified to make sure the needs of the Town are satisfied.
2. When snow accumulation is above 3" all Cottage City Police & Public Works Employees shall report to the Town for duty unless excused in writing by the Town Manager.

INTRODUCED by the Cottage City Commission at a Meeting held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

PASSED by the Cottage City Commission at a Meeting held on Wednesday, February 12, 2025.

ATTEST:

TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY, MARYLAND

John Hoatson, Town Manager

By: _____
Wanda Wheatley, Commissioner-Chair

CERTIFICATION

I, HEREBY CERTIFY, as the duly appointed Town Manager of the Town of Cottage City, Maryland, that on the 12th Day of February 2025 with ___ Aye votes and ___ Nay votes, the aforesaid Resolution 2025-01 passed.

John Hoatson, Town Manager

Odyssey Shankle Bus and Truck Repair

5200 46th Avenue
Hyattsville, MD 20781
servicemngr@odyshank.com
(301) 699-8500

Estimate **2848**

Date: **2/10/2025**

Bill To
TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY
3820 40TH AVENUE
BRENTWOOD, MD 20722
P: 240-461-3835

Remit Payment To
Primary
5200 46th Avenue
Hyattsville, MD 20781

Service Order		Purchase Order		Authorizer	
2848					
Item	Description	Quantity	Rate	Amount	
Complaint: INSPECT SALT SPREADER CUTS OFF AFETR 10 SECONDS OF STARTING AND SALT SPREADER CONTROL HAS POWER BUT NOT SENDING POWER TO THE AUGER SALT SPREADER					
Cause:					
Labor	Recommended Correction: Chassis / Chassis /	1.00000	\$170.00	\$170.00	
			Subtotal	\$170.00	
Complaint: REPLACE SERVICE KIT, AUGER SHORT AND BEARING					
Cause: Customer request (Inspection)					
Labor	Recommended Correction: Chassis / Chassis / REPLACE SERVICE KIT, AUGER SHORT AND BEARING	6.00000	\$170.00	\$1,020.00	
Parts	SERVICE KIT AUGER - A	1	\$1,042.8625	\$1,042.86	
Parts	FRONT AUGER BEARING - A	1	\$159.195	\$159.20	
			Subtotal	\$2,222.06	
HAZ MAT			1.500%	\$36.77	
Credit Card Pass-Through fee			3.000%	\$74.65	
Shop Supplies				\$59.50	

Item	Description	Quantity	Rate	A
Unit: mes-13989	VIN: 1FTWF31578EC87954	Labor		\$1,190.00
License Plate: md83815		Parts		\$1,202.06
2008FordF-350		HAZ MAT(1.50% of \$2,451.56)		\$36.77
Chassis: 47,503 Miles		Subtotal		\$2,488.33
		Exempt (0% of \$0.00)		\$0.00
		Credit Card Pass-Through fee (3.000% of \$2,488.33)		\$74.65
		Total		\$2,562.98

*: Core charges not included in total. You will be charged for any core that is not in returnable condition. This charge may be applied on a separate invoice.

The details and the estimate for the repairs provided above are based on our first inspection and do not constitute a guarantee that no further work or parts will be required. The estimate is not a guarantee of the final price of the repairs. The total bill of work and final price will be as per the details available on completion of the repairs. Other terms and conditions as applicable. If you authorize us to perform the above repairs, either verbally or in writing, you agree to pay in full for the work performed and parts required.

Customer Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____



BRENTWOOD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INC.
3716 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, BRENTWOOD MD 20722

PHONE: 301 927-5713 FAX: 301 927-5713

TO: Mayor & Council members

2-09-2025

FROM: The Brentwood Volunteer Fire Dept.

This letter is to officially request the budgeted disbursement towards the maintenance of the 2022 fire engine, equipment, recruitment/retention and the required insurance due quarterly at a rate of \$1,900 with a \$2,500 deductible.

We are still unable to generate the maximum funding from our traditional source, the Hall, due to having to share 50% Hall rental revenue with the Mt. Rainier Vol FD housed in the building with us by order of the PGFD Administration. Also, the Farmer's Market that was imposed on us restricts some of our potential rental requests for morning or midday usage (Repasts, Community events etc.) yielding up to an 60% loss in revenue per day if this event happens.

In light of the current climate of restricted County funds, we are looking for assistance to help defray the costs of doing business. I have enclosed several documents showing the savings volunteers bring to the community both on a national average and local average. This information is to support the investment and importance of the volunteers to the community that we serve. We are requesting \$10,000, however, any amount that you can help the Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department with will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you in advance,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William F. Broadus".

William F. Broadus – President

Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department.



Supporting Those Who Serve

Dear Friend,

The volunteer fire service has a strong and proud tradition in our nation. From the earliest colonial days, community members have worked together to fight fires that threatened their towns. Many of the leaders who helped found our nation, including George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, felt this call of duty and served in or supported their local fire brigades.

2011-2012 marked what can be considered the 275th anniversary of our nation's volunteer fire service. It was in 1736 that Benjamin Franklin founded the Union Fire Company in Philadelphia. While there were firefighting societies in the Northeast before this, the founding of the Union Fire Company is considered by many to truly be the start of America's modern volunteer fire service.

Much has changed in firefighting technology, training, equipment, scope, and understanding over the past 275 years. But one thing has remained consistent: When disaster strikes, our nation relies on brave volunteers who are willing to put themselves in harm's way to protect their neighbors and their communities. These individuals routinely put others before themselves and serve their communities without thought to personal gain.

Today, over 70 percent of all firefighters in the U.S. remain volunteers, carrying on the noble tradition that started with our forefathers. The National Volunteer Fire Council is dedicated to serving the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue community, providing advocacy, resources, and programs to support these individuals and departments. Our goal is to make sure the volunteer tradition continues to thrive, now and in the future.

We hope you enjoy this publication as it looks back at the beginnings of our nation's fire service, how the volunteer fire and emergency services have changed over time, the continued importance of volunteers in today's society, and where we are headed in the future. Please also take time to visit the NVFC web site at www.nvfc.org to learn more about the organization and the resources and programs we offer.

Thank you to all those who serve your communities and keep our nation and our citizens safe.



Sincerely,

Philip C. Stittleburg

Chief Philip C. Stittleburg
Chairman
National Volunteer Fire Council

The Fire Service in the United States of America

VOLUNTEERS COMPRISE

65%

of **firefighters**
in the United States.The first fire company in the United States
was founded in **1678**.In
2021 >
there were**36,624,000** fire department calls**26,291,000** medical aid calls**1,353,500** fire calls**8,979,500** other

TOTAL

**18,873**

are all volunteer

5,335

are mostly volunteer

2,459

are mostly career

2,785

are all career

29,452 fire departments in the countryThe time donated by volunteer firefighters
saves localities across the country an estimated**\$46.9 billion** per year.In **2021** a fire department
responded to a fire every**23 seconds**The number of
volunteer
firefighters
reached a low of**676,900**

in 2020.

The volunteer fire service is an aging population. In communities under 2,500:



are under 30



are 30-39



are 40-49



are 50 and up

Call volume has
tripled in the
last **35**
years.

Volunteers are Often the First Line of Defense During:

- » Fires
- » Emergency Medical Incidents
- » Natural Disasters
- » Vehicle Accidents
- » Hazardous Materials Incidents
- » Terrorist & Active Shooter Events
- » Search and Rescue

Recruitment and Retention Challenges Include:

- » Time Demands
- » Increased Training Requirements
- » Increasing Call Volume
- » Aging Communities
- » Leadership Problems
- » Internal Conflict



www.nvfc.org

Effects of the decline in Volunteers

Effects of the decline in Volunteers The erosion of the volunteer fire service in the United States has economic and social effects. The economic ramifications are obvious, as towns are forced to hire career firefighters in place of volunteers. The 75 % of the country served by volunteer firefighters relies on them to be the first line of defense in almost any type of emergency from fires and medical emergencies to technical rescues and hazardous materials spills. Volunteers are the initial mitigators before the arrival of county, State, or Federal backup emergency response teams for all types of natural disasters. Of the over **30,000** fire departments in the United States, **88 percent are volunteer**, protecting 40 percent of the population.

On September 10, 2004, the NVFC Foundation officially released its Cost Savings Study and Calculator at the National Associations of Towns and Townships Conference in Washington, DC. The study, which was conducted by the Public Safety and Environmental Protection Institute at St. Joseph's University with the assistance of VFIS, found that it would cost U.S. taxpayers \$37.2 billion annually if they had to replace all volunteer firefighters nationwide with career staffing. Some have indicated they cannot afford to hire career firefighters, and that the services of firefighters would not exist if their departments failed. Others have said that their towns could afford to hire a few career firefighters, but that volunteers would still be necessary to supplement the career staff.

According to the Cost Savings Study, an average figure that can be used for a career firefighter's salary and benefits is \$71,500 per year. The actual figure varies by area of the country. The loss of volunteers also would have more subtle social ramifications.

In many communities, particularly small towns, the volunteer fire department has been a social center. Dinners, dances, family reunions, and weddings all have been held in the fire station. Volunteer firefighters embody and represent the spirit of the community. They are often the centerpiece in parades. The loss of the volunteer fire service would be a major social loss for any community.

U.S. Fire Administration Retention and Recruitment for the Volunteer Emergency Services Challenges and Solutions FA-310/May 2007

Volunteer economic impact for taxpayers

The NVFC provides calculators to assess "volunteer firefighter values" in dollars and savings to taxpayers.

Annual Value of Volunteers

This calculator will show the retention value of all members for their donated time to the fire or EMS department for the current year. This is a conservative value for one volunteer station, 20 riding members, 40 hours a month (4 hour weekly duty crews/24 hours of alarms), 9600 hours a year. As the total retention value of the donated time is the sole focus of this calculator, onboarding and investment costs are not considered (*PGFD covers onboarding costs*).

\$321,504

Average Annual Value per Member

\$16.075

Results created using the estimated hourly value of \$33.49 for United States Average

Source: Independent Sector, Last Updated: April 23, 2024

Cost Savings

Career Versus Volunteer Comparison Calculator

This calculator will show the cost of positions if staffed by career responders, representing the cost savings of volunteers filling those positions. Below example would be for one career staffed day station with volunteers covering nights/weekends.

The annual cost savings if volunteers cover 6 staffed positions, 12 hours per day is

\$1,051,801.98

Results created using the estimated volunteer hourly value of \$33.49 for United States Average¹. An increase in the fringe benefits of paid staff results in the hourly rate of \$40.00.

1. Source: Independent Sector, Last Updated: April 23, 2024

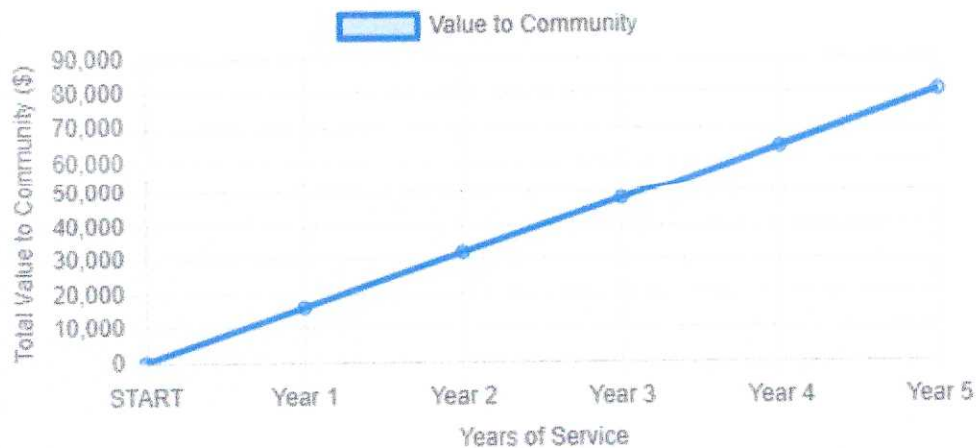
Value of Retention of one volunteer firefighter over 5 Years

The total contributed value of this volunteer over a period of 5 years is **\$80,376**, if they average 40 hours per month.

Results created using the estimated hourly value of \$33.49 for United States Average. This illustration uses that hourly rate assumption for all years shown. Source: Independent Sector, Last Updated: April 23, 2024

Value of Retention over 5 Years

Created 11/13/2024 using the estimated hourly value of \$33.49 for United States Average.
Average hours per month: 40. Onboarding costs: \$0



Maryland

Incident types

2021
STATEWIDE
NATIONAL
VOL FIRE
COUNCIL

