

Members of the City Council,

The fire pension board is recommending an increase in the portion of the levy dedicated to the fire pension fund. The board received an actuary from the office of Timothy W. Sharpe. The levy amount the board is recommending is \$234,697. A portion of this amount is the personal property replacement tax and is backed out from the amount. This would require a tax levy of \$182,958. As a member of the community, I know the importance of accountability when it comes to any tax increase; and while I understand the financial strain of the time, I have the responsibility on behalf of the pension fund to recommend the increase. The fund performed well last year, but continued success depends on proper funding. With that in mind, the board believes that funds in an amount below the recommendation will only serve to compound the fund shortage in the future. The board thanks the council for your consideration.