



City of Rochelle Fire Department

Memo

To: David Plyman, City Manager

From: Brian Johnson, Fire Chief

Date: 11/13/2014

Re: Request approval of the Proposed First Addendum to the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Master Agreement, Section Five, Compensation for Aid

Mr. Plyman;

I received correspondence from Chief Jay Reardon, MABAS-Illinois CEO asking to request approval of the proposed First Addendum to the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Master Agreement, Section Five, Compensation for Aid. This proposal would allow for providing (aiding) agencies to be able to recoup associated expenditures from the requesting (stricken) agency after the first eight (8) consecutive hours.

MABAS is a mutual aid system, which has been in existence since the late 1960s. Pre September 11th, 2001, MABAS was heavily rooted throughout northern Illinois. Since September 11th, 2001, MABAS has rapidly grown throughout the States of Illinois and Wisconsin, and parts of Indiana, Iowa and Missouri. Day-to-day MABAS extra alarms are systematically designed to provide speed of response of emergency resources to the stricken community during an ongoing emergency. Declaration of Disasters is not required for routine, MABAS system activation's. Today MABAS includes approximately 1175 fire departments organized within 67 divisions. As the cost of lending mutual aid support has increased in recent times, communities have determined it necessary to agree in advance on cost reimbursement issues prior to the occurrence of an actual emergency. Mutual aid agreements such as the MABAS Master Agreement have served as the foundation for navigating cost issues and engaging in these agreements prior to the emergency to avoid post-emergency concerns on cost reimbursement. Approval is requested to accept the added language in Section Five of the Agreement. This would allow for the City of Rochelle to receive reimbursement from a stricken agency for costs of equipment, personnel, and/or services provided under this agreement when providing service for at least eight (8) consecutive hours.

The last amendment to this Master Agreement was prior to the year 2000. This has been a long-standing agreement and this new language will allow for communities to recoup the expenses of the emergency services provided for the prolonged event.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The financial impact related to this Agreement would be positive for any responses to stricken agencies when we are providing aid for longer than eight hours. Conversely, should we have an incident where our City is the stricken agency we would be responsible to cover those costs. It is under these

situations when we would need to address reimbursement through the affected party's insurance carrier to offset our costs of providing the aid from all responding communities. Many times, a third party causing the incident would be billed by the city recouping any expenses to other agencies.

In reality, incidents of this nature do not happen very often. In most cases, larger incidents do not utilize mutual aid companies for durations of over eight hours. Responding emergency companies are typically returned after only a few hours, at most. Responding agencies try to rotate before eight hours for safety reasons. It would be the extreme incident that this addendum may come into consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: Request approval of the proposed First Addendum to the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Master Agreement, Section Five, Compensation for Aid, which would allow for providing (aiding) agencies to be able to recoup associated expenditures from the requesting (stricken) agency after the first eight (8) consecutive hours.

Thank you;
Brian