

Chapter 18
AUTHORIZING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO
HOLD A VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S SOCIAL FUND

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18.01 Purpose and Authority

This ordinance is enacted pursuant to the authority of Wisconsin Statute Section 66.0608 for the purpose of authorizing a “volunteer firemen’s social fund” to be held in the name of the fire department. This ordinance is to be interpreted in conformance with that section as it may be amended from time to time. “Volunteer firemen’s social fund” is defined as those funds generated from Fire Department fund raising efforts, as well as donations and other charitable contributions directed to the Fire Department.

18.02 Authorization and Control

The Town Board authorizes the Fire Chief or his designee to deposit volunteer firemen’s social funds of the department in an account in the name of the fire department in any public depository in which other town funds are being held by the Town Clerk/Treasurer. The fire department, through its Fire Chief, is granted exclusive control over the expenditure of funds of the volunteer firemen’s social fund. This authority is granted without limitation as to amount or type of funds. It is however subject to the limitations and requirements hereinafter set forth.

18.03 Limitations and Requirements

The following limitations and requirements shall apply to the handling and disbursement of funds from the volunteer firemen’s social fund account:

1. Expenditures:
Expenditures withdrawn from the account may be made only upon majority vote of the fire department members present at a duly noticed meeting of the department. Such withdrawals and expenditure may be made for any purpose that promotes the ability of the fire department to provide service for which it is organized.
2. Accountings:
The Fire Chief shall provide a statement within 10 days upon written request for an accounting of the volunteer firemen’s social fund account. The statement shall

include a detailed itemization of all receipt, expenditures, and the balance. The source of all funds and the identity of the payee for each disbursement shall be set forth.

3. **Audit:**

The volunteer firemen's social fund account shall be audited annually in the manner that the town board directs. An audit report shall be on file and provided by the Fire Chief within 5 days upon written request.

18.04 Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances

All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening or inconsistent with the provisions of his ordinance are hereby repealed.

18.05 Severability

If any provision of this ordinance is invalid or unconstitutional, or if the application of this ordinance to any person or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provision or application. State Law Reference: Section 66.0608, Wis. Stats.

18.06 Ownership of Funds

Notwithstanding an ordinance enacted under Section 66.0608 (2), volunteer funds shall remain the property of the municipality until the funds are disbursed.