

Chapter 18
**AUTHORIZING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT & FIRST RESPONDER DEPARTMENT
TO EACH HOLD A VOLUNTEER 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 the town Fire Department and the town First Responder department to each hold “volunteer funds” in the name of the Fire Department and First Responder Department. This ordinance is to be interpreted in conformance with that section as it may be amended from time to time. “Volunteer fund” is defined as those funds generated from Fire Department or First Responder fund raising efforts, as well as donations and other charitable contributions directed to the Fire Department and First Responder Department.

18.02 Authorization and Control

The Town Board, pursuant to § 66.0608, hereby authorizes the Fire Department and First Responder Department, by their respective designated official or employee, to deposit volunteer funds in public depository accounts in the name of the Fire Department or First Responder Department in a public depository. 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 fund account:

A. Expenditures:

Expenditures of volunteer funds of the Fire Department and First Responder Department may be made only upon a majority vote of the Fire Department or First Responder 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 or First Responder Department to provide service for which it is organized.

B. Accountings:

The authorized account holder of the Fire Department and the First Responder Department shall provide a statement of the respective volunteer fund within 10 days upon written request. 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.

C. Audit:

The volunteer fund account of the Fire Department and First Responder Department shall be audited annually by the Town Clerk-Treasurer.

18.04 Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances

All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening or inconsistent with the provisions of this 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.