

MILLVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY INC.



DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS PROUDLY PROTECTING THEIR COMMUNITY

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July 8, 2021

Honorable Mayor and Council
Town of Ocean View, Delaware
201 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE 19970

Mayor John Reddington and Council Members:

RE: American Rescue Plan Act Funding – Request for Consideration of Support

As President of the Millville Volunteer Fire Company, I am reaching out to make you aware of a fund raising effort currently underway. As you are aware, the Town of Ocean View has been a steady supporter of our fire company, and your support which is greatly needed is also very much appreciated. At this time however, the fire company is greatly in need of support for our effort to add a 4,800 sq. ft. addition and renovations to our existing facility located along Atlantic Avenue. The cost of this undertaking is approximately two million dollars.

Our current volunteer "home response" has been severely impacted by district growth and heavy traffic issues, especially during the summer months. First, the addition will provide living and sleeping areas for our newly formed "live-in" program allowing our volunteer members to live at the fire station in a more appropriate setting. Secondly, we will be adding a sleeping area for "volunteer duty crews" allowing for in-station staffing during severe weather emergencies and other times as required. Another major benefit of the project is that the addition will create a much more livable space for our current and future career employees while on duty.

The renovation portion of the project entails updating our current kitchen facilities from a public health and functional standpoint while also enabling our fire company to hold additional fund-raising activities well into the future. Areas currently used for temporary sleeping will be returned to their original purpose as a common gathering area with the goal to attract more volunteer "in-station" participation which is a prime focus. All public restroom facilities will be renovated to meet ADA requirements.

When the existing fire station was constructed in 1985 it was not required to have a fire sprinkler system installed. The renovations also include the installation of a fire sprinkler system to protect the new addition, the current building, and our equipment.

Once the project is underway it is expected to take approximately six to eight months to complete. There are plans in place to ensure continued and uninterrupted fire, rescue, and emergency medical services delivery to our community. The members of the Millville Volunteer Fire Company are extremely excited about enhancing our ability to serve our community and believe the improvements will also assist in our necessary recruitment efforts.

With all the above information shared, it is our hope that you may consider making an additional donation to the Millville Volunteer Fire Company in 2021 to help us fund this important public safety initiative. It is our understanding that such a donation would qualify for use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that the Town will be receiving. We are also requesting the same consideration of the Town of Millville.

Please advise if you need additional information or if you would like to tour the current facilities. Your consideration of this request as you make plans to put your ARPA funds to good use is greatly appreciated.

Very Sincerely,

Gregory Hocker

Gregory W. Hocker
President