

# VALLEY CONTRACT PROPOSAL

The transformation of our fire department to provide fire and EMS service took place over a number of years. Over the years the declining availability of qualified volunteers has brought the Village to contract with Macedonia for EMS service. When our station addition was completed the intention was to provide ambulance service from our station. As more volunteers left our roster, Council asked that surrounding communities [Hudson, Macedonia and Valley Fire] be asked if they would be interested in providing shared services with an ambulance to respond from our station. Macedonia and Valley Fire responded with proposals for our Village's consideration. The Macedonia proposal limited staffing hours to the weekend.

Valley Fire provided a proposal for 24/7 fire and EMS coverage. Under the proposal, Valley will utilize our fire station and equipment as well as offer employment and training to our volunteer fire department staff. Valley proposes to provide the residents of Boston Heights with Fire and EMS service with a Valley ambulance responding from our station. Below is an outline of some of the advantages to contracting for services from Valley Fire that the Council and Mayor are considering.

- Utilization of the Boston Heights Fire Station and fire equipment for response from our village station will virtually cut our response time in half.
- The National Fire Protection Association [NFPA 1710] requires a four (4) minute responder travel time and an eight (8) minute advanced life support responder travel time. The proposal will bring the Village in line with national fire safety standards.

- The 24/7 Valley staffing replaces our present lack of volunteer village fire and EMS responders during daytime hours.
- Valley Fire has a thirty-six member staff and has invited all qualified members of our department to become members to respond in our Village.
- A Valley ambulance will be placed to respond from our Village station with 24 hour availability.
- Close proximity [four miles between Valley and Boston Heights stations] for response and backup for our area and the Valley response area is an improvement over the current system.
- Familiarity of responders to our residents and area.
- Ability for our volunteer Boston Heights firefighters to respond to our residents as members of Valley's staff.
- Consolidation provides many more opportunities for funding grants to benefit the firefighter's skill levels and equipment for responses.
- Training grants to all Valley Fire members increase knowledge available due to shared programs.
- Shared stations, equipment and personnel improves our response to Boston Heights, Boston Township and Peninsula residents and businesses.
- As part of the proposal, Valley Fire will provide for Fire Inspectors to bring our inspection schedule current and maintain records as required.
- As per the current proposal, Valley will lease the Boston Heights station for \$20,000 per year. Boston Heights fire equipment would be leased for \$20,000 per year to Valley.