

## **Henrietta Fire District**

**850 Bailey Road**

**West Henrietta, N.Y. 14586**

Supervisor Sandra Frankel

Town of Brighton

2300 Elmwood Avenue

Rochester, New York 14618

June 17, 2011

Dear Supervisor Frankel,

The Henrietta Fire District has had a long working relationship with the West Brighton Fire Department. We have fought fires side by side for more than 50 years. The HFD has provided coverage to the WBFPD for banquets and other events. The WBFD has reciprocated. In an effort to assist our brother and sister firefighters in the West Brighton Fire Protection District, the HFD responded to all structure fire calls with our quint and a crew of career firefighters for almost seven years at no charge. This practice ended with the City of Rochester contract.

Geographically, the Henrietta Fire District is positioned very well to provide a quick response to the WBFPD. The HFD and WBFD are part of the Fifth Battalion of Monroe County and have worked and trained together since the inception of the battalion concept. The HFD believes that our long standing relationship with the WBFD would help to ease any transition.

The Henrietta Fire District looks forward to answering any questions you may have regarding our proposal.

Sincerely,

F. Joseph Martin Jr.

Chairman, Board of Fire Commissioners

James Comstock

Fire Chief

# West Brighton Fire Protection District Proposal

Submitted by the Henrietta Fire District June 17, 2011

## 1. Legal Structure

The Henrietta Fire District proposes to absorb the current area located in the Town of Brighton and known as the West Brighton Fire Protection District into the Henrietta Fire District. This process would include the WBFPD being dissolved by the Town of Brighton and simultaneously the boundaries of the Henrietta Fire District would be expanded to include those areas previously known as the West Brighton Fire Protection District. This process would require public hearings by the Town of Brighton, and the Town of Henrietta. There are no public approvals needed in this matter. The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Henrietta Fire District would remain in its current form. Upon completion of this process, those individuals in the new Henrietta Fire District area would have the ability to run for Fire Commissioner and/or vote in future elections.

## 2. Organizational Structure

The Henrietta Fire District will incorporate the former WBFPD into our current operational structure. The Henrietta Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners elected by the taxpayers would provide oversight and be responsible for fiscal control of the combined entity. The Henrietta Fire District Secretary/Treasurer will have day to day control of the business and human services operations. The fire suppression, emergency medical services, training, fire prevention activities, and all other operational functions will be under control of the Henrietta Fire District Fire Chief. Both of these positions are full time paid positions.

The Henrietta Fire District will provide fire protection to the former WBFPD with a combination of thirty five (35) career firefighters and officers, seventy three (73) volunteer officers and firefighters, and six (6) support staff (dispatchers, mechanic, and secretary/treasurer). The combination of career and volunteer firefighters and officers will allow the Henrietta Fire District to provide a high level of service at a reasonable cost to the citizens.

The cadre of firefighters and officers meets or exceeds all OSHA and NYS training requirements. The career firefighters receive a minimum of 229 hrs of basic training and 100 hrs. of annual training. The volunteer firefighters receive a minimum of 70 hrs. of basic training and 36 hours of annual training. All career firefighters and officers are NYS EMT-D certified as are many volunteers.

The Henrietta Fire District will provide all services to the WBFPD area that are currently provided to the HFD. These include fire suppression, first response EMS, fire prevention programs (including but not limited to: businesses, day care facilities, governmental agencies, youth groups etc.), special operations such as confined space rescue, trench rescue, and ice/water rescue, hazardous materials mitigation at the operations level, natural disaster assistance, and

response to other emergencies as needed. Monroe County would continue to provide fire investigation and hazardous materials mitigation at the technician level.

### 3. Staffing

Staffing is based on a single company response within the district. Any response beyond a single company will receive resources as needed.

The Henrietta Fire District proposes to provide services to the Eastern section of WBFPD (Brighton Henrietta Town Line Road entrance to MCC east to Edgewood Avenue.) from HFD station 5 at 230 Pinnacle Road with an engine staffed with 2 firefighters and an officer. Response times in this area will be reduced by as much as five minutes to portions of this area.

The Henrietta Fire District proposes to provide services to the remainder of the WBFPD from the current WBFPD station 2 with an engine or quint staffed by 2 career firefighters daytime Mon-Fri. The evening and weekend shifts will be covered by volunteer duty crews. Volunteer duty crews have been very successful in our volunteer stations. The duty crews are assigned to the station for a defined shift and provide an immediate response. The duty crews will be backed up by a career engine with an officer and 2 firefighters responding from our station 4 at 850 Bailey Road if needed. We feel this staffing option will be successful because 66.45% of calls are between 07:00 and 17:00 hrs. and 91% of all calls are between 07:00 and 23:00hrs.

The Henrietta Fire District staffing for responses that require more than one company will be a career response of 2 officers and 6 firefighters, and a volunteer response. Additional resources such as the Fire Chief, Training Officer, and Safety Officer will also respond depending on the incident. Off duty career firefighters will be called to duty if the incident warrants.

In addition to these staffing proposals, the Henrietta Fire District would make significant attempts to increase the number of volunteer firefighters within the area of the WBFPD and the "new Henrietta Fire District". Also the HFD would like to pursue a relationship with MCC and the fire protection program in regards to an intern program being established. Staffing will be reviewed and adjusted as needed by the Henrietta Fire District.

### 4. Existing Assets

The Henrietta Fire District would anticipate that title to all existing assets of the West Brighton Fire Protection District and all assets of the West Brighton Fire Department Inc. that are used in or in support of fire fighting activities would be transferred to the HFD. This includes but is not limited to all buildings, apparatus, equipment, turn out gear, vehicles, tools, furniture and fixtures, radios, computers, software, office equipment, kitchen equipment etc. as detailed in **Exhibit C**. It is further expected that all of the aforementioned equipment would be in good working order. Maintenance should be up to date and all records shall be provided for pump

tests, hose tests, ladder tests, hydrostatic testing, and any other testing or maintenance performed.

5. Startup costs

The following start up costs are anticipated:

a. Equipment	\$130,000
b. Radio upgrade	\$40,000
c. Residential Quint	\$750,000
Total	\$920,000

Notes:

- a. Includes upgrade to 5" supply hose and 5' appliances, ppe for additional volunteers, conversion of SCBA from 4500 psi to 2200 psi units. Consistency of equipment will be vital for firefighter safety.
- b. Henrietta channel 51 will need to be integrated into the current equipment of WBFPD. Also an additional voter site for our system may need to be added.
- c. Due to the number of multi story buildings in the WBFPD area, an aerial device will be needed. A 75' residential quint will be the most cost effective apparatus to meet this need.

6. Impact to taxpayers

This proposal will have no tax impact on the taxpayers of the Town of Henrietta. The taxpayers of the Town of Brighton will see their tax rate reduced by \$.10 per 1000 of assessed valuation. This proposal provides for a high level of service to the WBFPD, staffing of the West Henrietta Road station and the full resources of the Henrietta Fire District at a lower cost for the Brighton taxpayers. The resources that will be available to provide fire protection to the former WBFPD will include 6 additional fire stations. 9 engine companies, 1 100' aerial platform, 3 rescue companies, 1 special operations trailer (confined space, trench, and rope rescue), 1 fire prevention trailer/classroom, and numerous support vehicles. Also 100 firefighters will be available to provide the needed manpower. Most importantly this proposal provides for a long term fire protection solution for the WBFPD. The Henrietta Residents will receive the benefit of additional resources (equipment and manpower), and an additional station that will improve response times to parts of the town.

Map data 3 and 12

## 7. Existing WBFPD Volunteer Firefighters

The Henrietta Fire District is sensitive to the impact this proposal will have on the existing members of the WBFPD. The HFD and its three companies (Henrietta Co. #1 Inc., West Henrietta Fire Department Inc., and the Genesee Valley Fire Department Inc.) would consider any applicant for membership that meets all of our current criteria. This includes but is not limited to:

- a. Application completed and reviewed
- b. Background check (Credit, criminal, residency, employment, and dmv)
- c. NFPA 1582 2001 physical standards for interior firefighters administered by HFD physicians
- d. Drug test
- e. State required arson check
- f. Physical ability test

These requirements are required of all prospective applicants to the Henrietta Fire District.

Those individuals who do not meet the active requirements may apply for social membership in Henrietta Co. #1 inc. or the Genesee Valley FD Inc.

The Henrietta Fire District will review on an individual basis firefighters who are approaching milestones in the WBFPD such as 50 years of service.

The HFD will provide an area in the West Henrietta Rd. Station to display historical items of the WBFPD. Also the HFD will be willing to discuss options for the preservation and use of Engine 505.

## 8. WBFPD LOSAP

The existing WBFPD Length of Service Awards Program would not be included as part of this proposal. HFD will assume no responsibility for the plan. The Town of Brighton will be responsible for addressing whatever actions are necessary to resolve this issue.

## 9. Transition Period

The Henrietta Fire District would anticipate that a transition could be made within a period of 3 months after all legal and other transition issues have been resolved. It is difficult to provide an accurate timeline for the resolution of these issues as this is uncharted waters for all involved. Funding and personnel issues must be discussed before a firm transition date can be

determined. Also district familiarization, preplanning and equipment familiarization could begin immediately.

#### 10. EMS Response

The HFD would propose to work with the Brighton Volunteer Ambulance Inc. in regards to positioning of an ambulance in the WBFPD area. 55.45% of service calls for this area are EMS related. The positioning of an ambulance on the west side of the Town of Brighton would provide better service for the citizens and reduce out of service time for the HFD.

#### 11. Annual Operating Costs

The HFD anticipates annual operating costs for the existing facilities, apparatus, and operations to be \$250,000. Payroll costs \$300,000. Distributions to the apparatus and building reserves will be \$150,000. The HFD anticipates that there will be other unforeseen costs as a result of this transition.

#### 12. Payments in Lieu of Taxes

The HFD will receive all funds from the current PILOT agreements with MCC, Butterfly Fields and ESL Center. The HFD seeks a commitment from the Town of Brighton to support future PILOT's with tax exempt properties within the Town of Brighton and the Henrietta Fire District.

The HFD will receive all 2% funds for the Henrietta Fire District coverage area in the Town of Brighton.

**Schedule B**  
Henrietta Fire District

Name of Organization	West Brighton Fire Protection District Assessed Value	Merging District Total Assessed Value	Total Proposed 2010 District Tax Levy	2010 Tax Rate/\$1000.00 of Assessed Value	Anticipated Post Merger Contract (Dollars)	Anticipated Post Contract Budget (District Tax Dollar Levy)	Proposed Tax Rate/\$1000.00 of Assessed Value	Impact to West Brighton (Show/\$1000.00 of Assessed Value)	Impact to Merging District (Show/\$1000.00 of Assessed Value)
2010 West Brighton Fire District Tax Rate	423,397,152.00		942,965.00	2.23	-	-	-	(0.18)	-
2010Henrietta Fire District Tax Rate		3,026,235,791.00	6,172,305.00	2.05	-	7,071,747.00	2.05	-	-
2011 West Brighton Fire District Tax Rate	417,417,282.00		960,254.00	2.30	-	-	-	-	-
2011 Henrietta Fire District Tax Rate		3,089,519,329.00	6,792,260.00	2.20	-	7,715,260.00	2.20	(0.10)	-