

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: May 4, 2015

SUBJECT: Mills River Fire and Rescue, Inc. Tax Exempt Loan Agreement

PRESENTER: Mills River Fire Chief, Rick Livingston

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

1. **Draft Letter to First Citizen**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

At the March 12, 2015 meeting of the Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee, Mills River Fire & Rescue presented a proposal to purchase a new ladder truck. The total amount financed will be \$800,000 at a fixed interest rate of 3.65% with annual payments of \$100,000 for 15 years. Mills River Fire & Rescue held a public hearing to discuss the loan agreement on April 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at their department.

The Fire & Rescue Advisory Committee unanimously recommended approval of the proposed aerial apparatus purchase.

Mills River Fire & Rescue respectfully request the Chairman sign the attached letter to First Citizens Bank.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to authorize the Chairman to sign the attached letter to First Citizens Bank stating the conditions of the fire protection contract with Mills River Fire Department.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board authorize the Chairman to sign the letter to First Citizens Bank on behalf of Mills River Fire & Rescue.

To be reproduced on County Letterhead

Date:

First Citizens Bank & Trust Company
P.O. Box 749
Hendersonville, NC
Attention: Nicola Bardsdale

Dear Madam:

I am Chairman of the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, and I am writing to advise you that Mills River Fire & Rescue is assigned to protect a specific Fire District within Henderson County.

In addition, a special ad valorem (fire tax) is assessed on the real property owners of this district. Said tax is to be used exclusively to provide equipment, facilities, and training as is necessary to provide fire protection for said district. Said funds may also be used to upgrade equipment as the need arises. This tax is collected by the County and disbursed by the Finance Office to the Fire Department on a regular basis by the County Finance Officer. The Fire Department is operated and managed by the Board of Directors of the Fire Department and the Officers of said Department. The Mills River Fire Department is currently meeting the requirements of their fire service contract.

Please be advised that the County has no objection to this transaction.

Sincerely,

Chairman
Henderson County Commission

cc: Mills River Fire Department, Fire Marshal, Finance Office