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## Letter to Village Residents from Mayor Gregorich

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Posted on Saturday October 04, 2025

Dear Foxfire Residents,

I would like to provide an update regarding the ongoing discussions between Foxfire Village and the West End Fire Department (WEFD) concerning our fire protection contract.

First and foremost, please rest assured that Foxfire Village continues to receive fire protection services from the West End location. This arrangement is not unusual; historically, personnel have often been dispatched from that station rather than from the Foxfire station.

Negotiations for the 2025–2026 fire protection contract began in April. However, WEFD’s final budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year was not received until September. During the interim, Foxfire submitted a proposal, which was ultimately declined by WEFD. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, we were unable to secure a meeting with WEFD to discuss a resolution.

The proposed contract period spans from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. During this time, WEFD has continued to provide fire protection services while negotiations have remained ongoing.

In the early hours of October 2, 2025, the Village received an email from the WEFD Chief stating that, at the direction of the West End Fire and Rescue Board of Directors, staffing would be pulled from Station 65 until further notice. At that time, the Village was still actively engaged in contract discussions and had already scheduled a special council meeting for October 3 to address the situation.

During that meeting, the Foxfire Village Council approved a proposal to make a good-faith payment to WEFD for services. The Council proposed a quarterly payment plan based on a total annual amount of \$270,000—four equal payments of \$67,500. In addition, the Village has set aside \$25,000 in a Public Safety Reserve, effectively meeting WEFD’s requested annual total of \$295,000.

One outstanding issue remains: the funding source for reserve accounts intended for County-approved capital equipment and infrastructure expenses. The County has indicated that Foxfire is expected to maintain these reserves, which is why the Village established and funded the Public Safety Reserve for fiscal year 2025–2026. The Village has requested written clarification from the County and is working to coordinate a meeting with all parties involved.

Given the circumstances, we believe our proposal reflects a fair and fiscally responsible solution that both meets the needs of our community and honors WEFD’s funding request.

Thank you for taking the time to stay informed about this important matter.

Sincerely,  
Janice Gregorich  
Mayor, Foxfire Village

