

DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY

ISSUE NUMBER: EPS 16

ISSUE CATEGORY: Enforcement & Public Safety

SOURCE: Daniel F. McNamara, President

RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS: §7-805 (Advisory Commission)

Detroit Fire Fighters Assn, Letter dated

November 1, 2010

RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:

RELEVANT LAW(S):

ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT: Restructure the permissive Advisory Commission to allow it to establish a 501(c)3 for the purpose of raising money to enhance the purchase, repair, maintenance, restoration and delivery of emergency fire, medical and transportation equipment and supplies, including buildings and vehicles.

Sec. 7-805. Advisory Commission

A 4 (four) member **Detroit Fire Department Advisory Commission (DFDAC)** may be appointed by the mayor to advise the mayor and the fire commissioner **and the Chief of Fire Operations** on matters relating to the fire department (DFD). **The Fire Department Advisory Commissioners will provide their time and service gratis to the Mayor and the citizens of the City of Detroit in their capacity as a Commissioner.**

The DFDAC shall have the authority to set up a non-profit 501 (c) (3) public charity corporation that shall be used solely for the express purpose of enhancing the purchase, repair, maintenance, restoration and delivery of emergency fire, medical and transportation equipment and supplies including buildings and vehicles necessary to the lifesaving services provided by the City of Detroit Fire Department to our citizens.

The DFDAC shall have the authority to raise funding for the fire department through grants, public donations and fund raisers through the public charity corporation 501 (c) (3). All public charity funds raised and/or received will be used solely for, and by, the Detroit Fire Department for the express purpose of enhancing the purchase, repair, maintenance, restoration and delivery of emergency fire, medical and transportation equipment and supplies including buildings and vehicles necessary to the lifesaving services provided by the City of Detroit Fire Department to our citizens.

The DFDAC shall have the authority to appoint a seven (7) person Detroit Fire Department Advisory Commissioners' Management Board (DFDACCMB) that will have the fiduciary oversight, management and reporting responsibilities of all 501 (c) (3) funds and approve all expenditures from this funding source without the approval of the City of Detroit. All of these items will be donated to the City of Detroit on behalf of the 501 (c) (3) and at no cost to the City of Detroit or its citizens.

The City of Detroit will not reduce the budget line items in its funding to the Detroit Fire Department based on the items purchased and/or donated for the Detroit Fire Department through its public charity 501 (c) (3) corporation.

RATIONALE: None originally provided. Requested November 3, 2010 and following provided on November 15, 2010:

"This new Section allows for a 501c to be formed by the current Detroit Fire Department Advisory Board. Its purpose is to reach out and find alternative sources of funding to assist the fire department. A similar active and very successful 501c is currently in place in San Diego, California. The DFDAC is comprised of dedicated former fire department and civilian persons who truly

support the fire department and want to help find funding sources from outside the normal budget process and keep morale at a high level. Today's world is all about secondary grants and awards that this commission can access and also serve as a strong resource for the city." – Daniel McNamara, President, Detroit Fire Fighters Assn.

ANALYSIS:

DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:

NOTES: