

Introduction

The City of Cortland will be placing a levy on the November ballot for the capital improvements of the Fire Department. The **Capital Improvements Levy** will be a **new** levy of 1.5 mil.

Currently

The residents of the City of Cortland have grown accustomed to, and deserve the high quality of safety services they currently receive. It is our goal at the fire department to maintain this high caliber of service.

Over the years many changes have occurred. Dramatic increases in requirements have been placed on the department and its personnel at the state and federal levels. The greatest financial impact was the loss of funding at the state level by the elimination of tangible property tax, local government funds, and estate taxes. The cost of fire and medical supplies has dramatically risen, and reimbursements for services have decreased.

The reliability of fire and EMS equipment is essential to providing our services to the community. One of the fire trucks was acquired in 1993 and is now 27 years old. This vehicle has reached its serviceable life. This truck must be replaced at a cost of over \$600,000. The dependability of a vehicle

used to protect your lives and property is critical.

Levy Fund

We also have a need for major renovations or replacement of the fire station. The current fire station was constructed in 1949. It had a major renovation and expansion in 1986. Since then we have done a good job of keeping it serviceable, but the time has come to reinvest in a building.

The estimated cost of this new levy would be approximately **\$52.00** per \$100,000 of the assessed valuation. Assessed valuation = 35% of Market value.

<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Cost to Home Owner</u>		
	<u>Year</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>
\$100,000	\$52.50	\$4.37	\$0.14

The funds from the fire levy are utilized solely by the Fire Department. This includes:

- * Buildings and Grounds
- * Purchase of Ambulances
- * Purchase of Fire Trucks
- * Equipment for vehicles
- * Maintenance of building
- * Equipment for personnel

FUNDS CANNOT BE USED TO PAY PERSONNEL, OR FOR RAISES OR BENEFITS.

Over the years we have done our best to conserve and extend the funding provided to us with a minimal impact or loss of services. However, the time has come for us to ask for your support. Help us to continue serving you.

Thank you,

David E. Rea, Fire Chief

*Bill Brewer, President
Cortland Firefighters Local
3632*

CORTLAND CITY FIRE
DEPARTMENT



Paid for by Cortland Firefighters Local 3632