



# City of Muscatine

ITEM NUMBER 2026-0032

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

DATE: 2/3/2026

### STAFF

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Mike Hartman, Fire Chief

### SUBJECT

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Request to Approve Mutual Aid Agreement with Wilton Fire Department

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Presented for City Council's consideration is a request to enter into an agreement that will allow the Muscatine Fire Department (MFD) to respond to fires at Muscatine Power and Water (MPW) properties as part of the initial emergency response.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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It is recommended that the agreement is approved

### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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Muscatine Power and Water has a few facilities that are located outside Muscatine city limits. A fire at one of these facilities has the potential to impact utility service to citizens of Muscatine. MFD is presently responding to the initial call for incidents at MPW properties in the Fruitland Fire District, through our current Automatic Aid agreement. Approval of this agreement will allow MFD to respond to the initial call for any MPW property that is in the Wilton Fire District. Presently, this consists of a substation on Highway 38, north of Muscatine. Approval of the agreement will provide quicker response and less damage should an incident occur. Damage to the MPW properties outside the City can have a negative impact on individuals and companies who are within city limits. Over the past ten years, there has been one minor fire-related call, so there would be little to no impact on call volume. The Wilton Fire Department verbally approved the agreement and MPW staff are supportive of this change.

### CITY FINANCIAL IMPACT

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There is little to no expected economic impact based on the historic call volume to this location.

### ATTACHMENTS

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1. Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement - Wilton



AUTOMATIC MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT  
WILTON FIRE DISTRICT – MUSCATINE POWER & WATER

Section 1. This agreement is made pursuant to Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa between the Wilton Fire District and the City of Muscatine, in regards to the provision of fire suppression services, as provided for by the respective fire departments.

Section 2. Duration. This agreement shall remain in effect until either party serves notice to the other party that it intends to terminate the agreement, on a particular date specified in the notice.

Section 3. Purpose. The purpose of this agreement is to provide for the response of the personnel and equipment from the Fire Department of one party to fire suppression within the jurisdiction of the other party.

Section 4. Expenses. Each jurisdiction shall assume all of its own operating expenses incurred which relate to the response to emergencies under this agreement. These expenses include, but are not limited to, salaries, compensation, equipment costs, and fuel expenses. This provision shall apply unless prior arrangements to the contrary have been made.

Section 5. Liability. Each jurisdiction shall be solely liable for any damage or injury which its personnel, property, or equipment may suffer while responding to, working at, or returning from the other jurisdiction.

Section 6. Administration. The Fire Chief of each jurisdiction shall act as co-administrators of this agreement.

All decisions pertaining to the acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of any real or personal property jointly obtained as a consequence of this agreement shall be made by the co-administrators, or their designated representatives. Disposition of any jointly acquired property shall be made prior to termination of the agreement by either party.

Section 7. Procedures. The "Automatic Mutual Aid" area will include the property owned by Muscatine Power and Water. Upon notification of a fire in this area of the first party's jurisdiction, the second party will be notified of said emergency. If circumstances allow, based upon the discretion of the second party, the second party may respond personnel and equipment to the emergency.

Other areas of each jurisdiction are considered "Mutual Aid Areas", where assistance is provided when normal resources available to the jurisdiction are exceeded by an emergency situation.

Section 8. Responsibility. It is not the intent of this agreement to create a responsibility upon either party to respond to, continue a response to, or maintain a presence at the scene of any emergency occurring within the jurisdiction of the other party.

Executed on the dates as indic

Wilton Fire Department


By:   
Mayor, City of Wilton, IA


Attest:

  
Wilton Fire Chief

Date: Feb. 25, 2026

City of Muscatine

By:   
By: Brad Bark (Feb 6, 2026 16:15:27 CST)  
Mayor, City of Muscatine, IA

  
Cinda Hilger (Feb 9, 2026 09:06:08 CST)  
Muscatine City Clerk

Date: Feb 9, 2026