



MAYOR
Ken Ritter

City of Youngsville
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CITY COUNCIL
Kayla Menard Reaux
Lindy Bolgiano
Matt Romero
Kenneth Stansbury
Simone B. Champagne

February 13, 2023

Josh Carlson, Lafayette Parish Council Chairman
Members of the Lafayette Parish Council
705 West University Ave. Lafayette, LA 70502

RE: Resolution 2023-03 – A resolution requesting additional funding from the Lafayette Parish Council for the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection services outside of the Youngsville city limits.

Dear Members of the Lafayette Parish Council,

I know that we all support public safety throughout our parish. Police officers hold the thin line between civility and chaos, EMTs respond in record time to provide first-class healthcare, and firefighters ensure our homes, families, and our valuables remain safe. I am very proud of all our first responders, but today I'm writing specifically in support of the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department (YVFD).

Over the past several years we have seen a steady increase of calls in the unincorporated area, but we have seen parish funding at times decrease or stay stagnant. In 2022, the City of Youngsville provided almost 97% of funding to YVFD, while over 30% of their calls were in the unincorporated areas of the parish. Something must change as this is not fair or sustainable. Attached is a resolution unanimously passed by the Youngsville City Council with my support requesting additional funding for our department's service to the unincorporated area.

I understand there are financial hardships in the parish, but there is not a better way to show support of our first responders than adequately funding their operations and returning to the basics of government. Our city government can no longer foot the bill to provide a service without adequate funding. Youngsville's budget cycle begins soon for a fiscal year beginning July 1st. Can we count on the parish council to increase funding for the fire protection district in the unincorporated area? I appreciate your time on this matter and eagerly await your response.

Sincerely,

Ken Ritter
Mayor, City of Youngsville
mayor@youngsvillela.gov

CC: Mayor President Josh Guillory
YVFD Board President Richard Bresnahan

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The following Resolution was offered by Simone B. Champagne and seconded by Kenneth "Ken" Stansbury:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE LAFAYETTE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YOUNGSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES OUTSIDE OF YOUNGSVILLE CITY LIMITS.

WHEREAS, the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department provides services to both the City of Youngsville and the Parish of Lafayette (outside of Youngsville City limits); and

WHEREAS, the City of Youngsville provides 96.85% in funding for operations and maintenance of the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, through a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, dated November 1, 2022, Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government currently pays the Volunteer Fire Department an annual fixed amount of \$71,322, a total of 3.15% of the department's expenses, and

WHEREAS, in FY 2022, 30% of the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Departments calls were outside of Youngsville City limits; and

WHEREAS, the funding provided by Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government does not commensurate with the call volume provided to the unincorporated areas of the Parish; and

WHEREAS, the City of Youngsville respectfully requests additional funding from the Lafayette Parish Council for the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection services outside of Youngsville City limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Youngsville does hereby request additional funding from the Lafayette Parish Council for the Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection services outside of Youngsville City limits.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote; the vote therein was as follows:

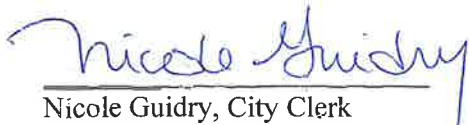
YEAS: Kayla Menard Reaux, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Kenneth "Ken" Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

This resolution was adopted on this 9th day of February, 2023.


Nicole Guidry, City Clerk


Ken Ritter, Mayor