



COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DEPT./DIVISION SUBMISSION & REVIEW:

Mitch Randles, Fire Chief

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Recognize May 9th as the founding date of Temple Fire Rescue as an organized fire company for the City of Temple.

The department was organized in 1883 and consisted of two companies initially; The Blacks Ladder & Hose Company (H.C. Black was the foreman) and The Watchful Hose Company No. 1. Both were volunteer companies using hand drawn and horse drawn wagons and carts to transport firefighting equipment to fire scenes. In 1916 the department moved fully from horse and hand drawn apparatus to all motorized fire equipment with 17 paid firefighters. In 1947 the department had grown to four fire engines, two booster trucks and one ladder truck staffed by 33 personnel. Today our department operates out of eight stations with five fire engines, three ladder trucks, two booster/squads, a heavy rescue Hazmat truck, a medium rescue, Battalion Chief and a rescue boat. A total of 126 personnel provide fire, EMS, specialized rescue, fire prevention and investigation, emergency management and community education services to our citizens and visitors.