



# Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue

## Memorandum

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**TO:** Menasha Common Council  
Neenah Common Council

**FROM:** Al Auxier, Chief

**DATE:** April 30, 2015

**RE:** Recognition of Deputy Chief Steve DeLeeuw

On May 12, 2015, Deputy Chief Steve DeLeeuw will be retiring from Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue. We will be saying goodbye to a man that has dedicated most of his life to both the Menasha Fire Department and Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue. I would like to take time to both thank, and honor, him for over 41 years of service.

Steve began his career as a firefighter with the Menasha Fire Department on January 16, 1974. As he has often said, this was one of the best days of his life. He progressed through the ranks from Firefighter to Driver/Operator to Lieutenant to Captain and eventually Deputy Fire Chief. His commitment to doing his best was always evident in everything he did. As he moved through the ranks, he was always willing to share his knowledge, and express the pride he had for the job, with new firefighters.

On January 1, 2003, the Menasha Fire Department and Neenah Fire Departments consolidated to become Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue. At that time, Steve was appointed as the Deputy Chief of Operations. The knowledge and skills he gained as the Deputy Chief for the Menasha Fire Department were instrumental in helping form our Department. His dedication, hard work and commitment to do the best job he can, has helped our Department become an extremely successful organization.

In recent conversations with Steve, he has said it is time to retire but I know that deep down inside he will miss the closeness that the brotherhood of firefighting has brought him over the last 41 years. I am sure the friendships he has made will continue to be a large part of his retirement life. Steve looks forward to playing more golf and from one golfer to another I hope every round is nothing but "Fairways and Greens."

Really, the largest adjustment with Steve's retirement will be for his wife Peggy. She said she actually looks forward to having him home. They both enjoy traveling together and I am sure there will be more time for that.

Please join me in extending a heartfelt thank you to Deputy Chief Steve DeLeeuw for 41 years of dedicated service to the communities of Menasha and Neenah. This is something that is truly remarkable and very few of us will be able to accomplish.