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Media Contact:

Mueller Communications

414-390-5500

hudson@muellercommunications.com

**COMMUNITY SURVEY SHOWS CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FOR
INCREASING HUDSON FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF**

Survey results show 72% support for referendum to fund full-time Hudson firefighters

HUDSON, WIS. – On June 15, the Hudson Common Council received community survey results showing 72% support for a \$1.49 million referendum to permanently increase the property tax levy to fund twelve full-time firefighters to improve fire and emergency medical services.

“We are honored that the Hudson community has been so vocally supportive of our work,” said Fire Chief Drew Spielman. “Our team is proud to serve our community and looks forward to continuing to keep our neighbors safe as we work to modernize our department.”

The survey, distributed to City of Hudson households in May 2026, was administered by independent third-party research firm Community Perceptions. Key findings include:

- 67% of respondents find it very important to improve emergency response times
- 72% of respondents indicated support for a \$1.49 million referendum to fund full-time firefighters

More than 1,450 residents responded to the survey, making it highly representative of community perspectives, with a small margin of error at +/- 2.60%.

Prior to the survey, in April 2026, the City released an Options Assessment highlighting the need to transition to a more reliable, full-time Fire Department staffing model amidst growing demand for fire and emergency services. The report also outlined costs associated with increased staffing and identified potential options to fund these emergency service improvements.

The Common Council is currently evaluating whether to place a referendum question on a future ballot. Additional updates about a potential referendum will be shared with the community as relevant.

Additional information about the Fire Department’s challenges and full survey results are available at <https://www.hudsonfd.org/services-1>.

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