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Passed 7-0-0 (Rosenbarger, Zulich absent)

Bloomington Common Council Ordinance No. 2026-36 City of Bloomington Ordinance to establish a dedicated Fire Department Fund

Preamble

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington Common Council recognizes the importance of having reliable, continuous, community education and fire prevention materials for the health, safety, welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Fire Department desires to establish a dedicated non-reverting funding stream to ensure stable financial support for ongoing community-based fire education separate from the general operating fund; and

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Fire Department now has ability to collect monies through updated technology incorporated through ITS systems; and

WHEREAS, all collected money will go towards the permitted uses of the fund for hosting specialized training, certifications, community educational programs, and including but not limited to acquisition, maintenance, and replacement of necessary items to support the goal of community education;

WHEREAS, Council's authority to create a special non-reverting fund for its Fire Department by ordinance is grounded in Indiana Code 36-1-3 the HOME rule and Indiana Code § 6-7-1-31.1, §36-10-3-20, and §36-10-3-22, which collectively authorize municipal fiscal bodies to establish, by ordinance, dedicated non-reverting capital funds that cannot be withdrawn for purposes other than those for which the fund was created.

Be It Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, That:

Section 1: Establishment of the Fund

It is hereby created and established in the office of the controller a separate and dedicated non-reverting fund to be known as the Bloomington Fire Department Community Fund. The fund will fall under Title 18.04 of the Bloomington Municipal Code.

Section 2: Source of Revenue

The fund shall consist of and be credited with proceeds from donations, grants, bequests or contributions from community members or organizations in addition to:

- Fees collected by law from designated ordinances for fire protection;
- Fees collected for specialized services; and
- Fees collected from interest and investment earnings attributable to monies in the Fund.

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Section 3: Permitted Use of the Fund
Monies deposited into the Fund shall be used exclusively and strictly for the purpose of the Bloomington Fire Department to provide programs and events focused on community outreach, youth programs, emergency skills and safety instruction, and other fire education. The fund may also be used for equipment, hardware, software, training props and other Fire related expenses.

Section 4: Restrictions and Non-Reversion
No monies from the Fund shall be transferred, loaned, or diverted to the General Fund or any other City of Bloomington municipal fund for non-Fire-related purposes.

Any and all unexpended balances remaining in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund, but shall remain in the fund for future capital and community education needs of the Fire Department.

Section 5: Administrative and Accounting
The City of Bloomington Controller shall maintain the Fund in accordance with Indiana State Board of Accounts and standard municipal accounting practices and generally accepted accounting principles.

The Fire Chief, or a designated representative, shall submit an annual projected expenditure plan to the Council during the annual budget hearing.

This non-reverting fund will exist perpetually until passage of another Ordinance to terminate or amend. Upon termination of the fund, all monies are to be redistributed to the City of Bloomington's General Fund.

Section 6: Severability
If any section, sentence or provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 7: Effective Date
This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

Passed
Passed by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 4th day of November, [Year].

Signature of Common Council President [Full Name]

Signed by:
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Attestation of Bloomington City Clerk:

Signed by:
Nicole Bolden
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11/9/2026 | 5:13 PM EST

Signature of Bloomington City Clerk [Full Name]

Presentation by Bloomington City Clerk:

Presented by me to the Mayor of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this day of , [Year].

Signed by:
Nicole Bolden
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Signature of Bloomington City Clerk [Full Name]

Approval by the Mayor:

Signed and approved by me on this day of , [Year].

Signed by:
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Signature of Mayor [Full Name]

Synopsis

This ordinance, sponsored by Councilmember Stosberg, establishes the Fund to support events and programs that advance the community educational goals of the Bloomington Fire Department.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Controller, Fire, Legal, and Mayor.