

From: [Dan Kramer](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Fire Station Proposal
Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 10:14:11 AM

To all parties, my name is Dan Kramer. I have been a citizen of Atkins for 25 years and was a member of the Atkins Fire Department for 13 years as well a member of the Palo Ambulance service (A53) for 12 years. As a citizen of Atkins, I believe our volunteer emergency services are the soul of our town. I've worked with small towns and communities that are not as fortunate to have the membership that Atkins has. When our neighboring towns need help with their calls, they call Atkins because they know we will have the personnel available, regardless of the time or day.

I've watched this town grow exponentially in my time as a member of the community. Back then, the pole-building fire station was adequate, at best. After the derecho, it was apparent that something needed to be done to protect the lives and property of our townspeople that rely on the EMS/FD, not to mention the millions of dollars of equipment. A fire station is supposed to be a haven during natural disasters. Ours was not able to be. When the roof fell in on the old station, our emergency services were unable to do their jobs. Could that situation have been prevented? Probably not, but we can prepare for the next one and not let a mediocre facility cripple our EMS/FD from helping people.

This town will continue to grow, it's inevitable The surrounding communities of Cedar Rapids are experiencing a population explosion, Atkins being one of the few towns that isn't landlocked and will continue to grow. With that will come more calls, training, regulations, and membership. Building anything less would only be a band-aid for the situation. Our town needs a new station that will accommodate the community for decades to come. Our town owes it to the members of the FD who selflessly volunteer their time, putting their lives at risk. I propose the new fire station plans be accepted as presented.

Regards,

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