

## **PRESS RELEASE RE: FIRE SERVICE**

As it became increasingly clear that the Town of Morris and the MVFD had arrived at an impasse in negotiations, a group of volunteers formed to begin work on a contingency plan for the Town should one become necessary. These volunteers came together despite politics and their personal beliefs of who was right and who was wrong in the MVFD/Town dispute; the group formed simply to help the community move forward in a positive way. This group of volunteers is comprised of local residents with over 200 combined years of firefighting experience and have been meeting regularly to ensure that they are prepared for the newly announced deadline of July 1st so that there will be no lapse in fire coverage for the Town of Morris. This department is comprised of current MVFD members, former MVFD members, and new members. The group is currently in the process of finalizing the legal details to make the group an official Fire Department. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they are finalized. This new group of volunteers is prepared to start on July 1st and appreciates the support of the Morris residents during this transition. While we know that change can be unsettling, a seamless transition with immediate coverage is not only vital for the safety of our Town, but will also ensure that no additional costs are incurred by our residents due to outsourcing or insurance premiums. This new department is eager to work together with the Town and the residents to move forward and ultimately keep Morris safe. We understand that residents have questions and concerns and we will do our best to address them in the days ahead.