

Press Release

December 4, 2025

RE: Juniata County Station 3 Reopening (Mifflin Fire Department)

Unfortunately, it is not a matter of Mifflin Fire Department simply obtaining workers compensation to reopen. It is a matter of safety for both those who provide fire coverage services and for those being protected receiving proper fire protection.

Mifflin Borough Council's obligation is to ensure proper fire coverage to the citizens of Mifflin Borough. In the past, Mifflin Borough Council worked very tirelessly with the Mifflin Fire Department, prior to it voluntarily closing, to help it maintain being a positive contribution to fire protection in our community.

Mifflin Fire Department's prior inability to provide the citizens of Mifflin Borough fire protection in a safe and appropriate manner with properly trained and equipped firefighters, concluded with their self-de facto decertification. Mifflin Borough Council's constituents' need for fire protection cannot be satisfied by the desire of Mifflin Fire Department to reopen.

It is premature to discuss giving fire protection responsibilities to an entity of unknown abilities. If there is a genuine interest to provide proper fire protection as "Mifflin Fire Department", Council's suggestion is for Mifflin Fire Department to begin by discussing adding their services to an adjoining fire company, such as Mifflintown Hose Company, to determine their ability to provide services. Our community needs volunteer firefighters and this would give them the opportunity they have expressed to contribute to those services.

If these volunteers were to elect to coordinate their burgeoning services with another fire company, their renewed existence could become a benefit for fire protection in our community. To do otherwise, despite any well intentions, may put firefighters at risk of serious personal injury in pursuing their desire to provide fire protection and the public at risk relative to their ability to properly provide fire protection service—an unwarranted risk and a risk Mifflin Borough Council is not willing to make with fire protection for the people of Mifflin Borough.

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