I'am sending this letter to ask you to consider not correcting your budget short fall by taking it out on the fire department. The fire department is the one department that gives you 100% return on your investment. The on thing you should consider is a straight across the board cut on all city departments to balance the budget. The one thing for sure is don't mess up the partnership that we have with the Rural

Fire Association. Any fire department would give anything to have a partnership like we have with the rural townships. It allows the city and the townships to share expenses on operations and equipment saving money for both. With the partnership gives us the ability to have the best equipment and it most definitely helps us draw people to be volunteers which is the backbone of the Charlotte Fire Department.

My name is Fred Wieting I live at 221 high st. I'm a retired fire captain for Charlotte Fire Department I have lived in Charlotte my whole life.