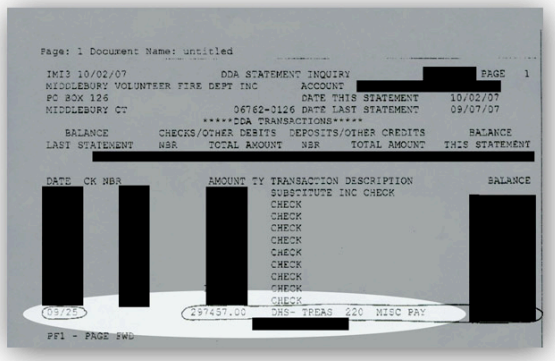

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IMI3 10/02/07 DDA STATEMENT INQUIRY [redacted] PAGE 1
MIDDLEBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT INC ACCOUNT [redacted]
PO BOX 126 DATE THIS STATEMENT 10/02/07
MIDDLEBURY CT 06762-0126 DATE LAST STATEMENT 09/07/07

*****DDA TRANSACTIONS*****

BALANCE LAST STATEMENT	CHECKS/OTHER DEBITS NBR	TOTAL AMOUNT	DEPOSITS/OTHER CREDITS NBR	TOTAL AMOUNT	BALANCE THIS STATEMENT
[redacted]					

DATE	CK NBR	AMOUNT	TY	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	BALANCE
				SUBSTITUTE INC CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
				CHECK	
09/25		297457.00		DHS- TREAS 320 MISC PAY	[redacted]

PF1 - PAGE FWD

The Middlebury Volunteer Fire Department learned today that we have received the $297,457.00 grant from FEMA. The money was wired to our account on September 25, 2007. The Fire Department is now prepared to go forward with the project of upgrading the MVFD's radio system to hi-band.

Steps are in-the-works to secure the $14,800 matching funds that are needed to meet the FEMA requirements. As stated before, it has been well known and publicized since February 26, 2007 that the Town's contribution would be approximately $15,000. (See http://www.middleburyfire.org/grant2.pdf) This is NOT something that was dumped into the laps of the Board of Selectmen or the Board of Finance at the 11th hour. Why the Town has not acted on the matching funds before now is a question that should be asked of the Selectmen, not the Fire Department. We have no power to appropriate town funds.

We can however, spend our own funds. If the Board of Selectman do not approve the $14,800 the Fire Department is prepared and will go forward and contribute the $14,800 out of our own accounts in order to fulfill the matching funds. Despite what you may have read, there is no requirement as to where these matching funds must be obtained from. The Fire Department will then attempt to be reimbursed after the new administration has been sworn in in December.

The bottom line is that the grant is safe and secure and the money now sits in the Fire Department's bank account. There are those who have tried to make this grant a political issue and disrupt it's progress. There are those who have tried to make the process more convoluted and complicated, when in reality it was a very simple process. The reality of all of this is that this grant has saved the taxpayers of Middlebury $297,457.00.

The awarding of this grant is a positive event for the community. It will help improve public safety, and allows us to easily communicate with our mutual aid towns. The Fire Department looks forward to working with the new Board of Selectmen, Radio Committee and the Police Department over the next few months to improve the town's antiquated radio system.