

**NORTH EAST TIPPECANOE FIRE TERRITORY
BATTLE GROUND TOWN ORDINANCE 14-522**

WHEREAS, for cost savings to individual units of government and for enhanced public safety, the townships of Tippecanoe, Washington, Perry and Sheffield and Battle Ground Town have determined to create the North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory in conformity with Indiana Code 36-8-19 and

WHEREAS, after proper notice was given, a public hearings were held jointly by these entities on February 25, 2014, March 10, 2014 and March 27, 2014 at which time information about the proposed Territory was provided and input from the taxpayers was received, and

Be it resolved by the Battle Ground Town Board of Tippecanoe County, Indiana adopted the following:

In accordance with IC 36-8-19 adopts the following:

Battle Ground Town is hereby authorized to become a party to one or more agreements for the establishment of the North East Tippecanoe Fire Protection Territory (“the Territory”), a fire protection territory being hereby created pursuant to said statute.

The boundaries of the North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory will include the townships of Tippecanoe, Washington, Perry and Sheffield and Battle Ground Town.

Tippecanoe Township will be identified as the provider unit as established in IC 36-8-19-3 Washington, Perry and Sheffield Townships and Battle Ground Town will be identified as participating units as established in IC 36-8-19-2

The guidelines established in the [North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory Primary Organizational Guidelines](#) dated 02/25/14 are incorporated by reference and attached.

The territory will establish a Fire Territory Fund from which all expense for operating and maintaining the fire protection services within the territory, including repairs, fees, salaries, depreciation on all depreciable assets, rents, supplies, contingencies, and all other expenses lawfully incurred with the territory shall be paid. IC 36-8-19-8. Further the territory will adopt a uniform tax rate upon all of the taxable property within the territory for fire protection services to fund the Fire Territory Fund.

In accordance with IC 36-8-19-6 c adopts the following:

The territory will also establish an Equipment Replacement Fund IC 36-8-19-8.5 to be used to purchase fire protection equipment, including housing, that will be used to serve the entire territory.

The territory will establish the Equipment Replacement Fund at .0333 for all taxable property in the fire territory.

In addition, the town authorizes the provider unit, Tippecanoe Township, to establish the funds delineated above for the operation of the North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory.

Adopted this 28th day of March 2014

NAY	AYE
	Steven C. Egly
	Karen Pearson

ATTEST:
Phyllis Hall
Clerk-Treasurer Battle Ground Town

North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory **Primary Organizational Guidelines**

The North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory is created to streamline the financial and administrative responsibilities for fire protection for the townships of Tippecanoe, Washington, Perry, and Sheffield and Battle Ground Town, in Tippecanoe County Indiana. The fire territory's governing Board is composed of the elected township trustees of the member townships and an elected representative of Battle Ground Town. The provider unit would be Tippecanoe Township, and Washington, Perry and Sheffield and Battle Ground Town would be classified participating units. The territory board will be responsible for establishing a tax rate and funding all territory expenses.

The territory would combine financial resources starting in budget year 2014. The Fire Operating tax rate necessary would be equal in all townships and Battle Ground Town of the territory. The territory would establish a Fire Protection Territory Fund for operating and an Equipment Replacement Fund to purchase fire protection equipment, including housing, that will be used to serve the entire territory.

The territory will have authority to contract with the Tippecanoe Township Volunteer Fire Department, the Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department and the Sheffield Township Firefighters Association to man the territory's stations and apparatus for the purpose of fire protection and EMS. Tippecanoe, Washington and Sheffield departments will operate under their own bylaws and SOGs and be under the command of their own officers.

An administrative body known as Central Command will be created from the member volunteer organizations. Central Command will consist of the Chief and Deputy Chief of Tippecanoe, Washington and Sheffield Fire Departments. Central Command will be responsible for administration of day to day operations of the territory. Central Command and the Territory Board will develop guidelines concerning purchasing authority and financial limits on purchasing for day to day operations.

Central Command will:

develop long range plans for large projects, such as replacement or addition of apparatus and buildings, and convey those plans to the Territory Board for action.

assign apparatus or other equipment to the departments in such a way that best utilizes the equipment. Apparatus and equipment, purchased by the territory, may also be reallocated by Central Command as situations change.

resolve issues that arise when the bylaws or SOGs of one department conflict with those of another member department and those issues adversely affect safe and efficient operations.

work to see that members of all three departments are receiving the same quality of training. Joint training will be encouraged. Firefighters may have various levels of training based on their abilities and the amount of time they have to volunteer but all firefighters must attain any minimum levels set by the State of Indiana.

Tippecanoe, Washington and Sheffield Volunteers Organizations will be free to continue having their own fund raisers, maintain their own funds and make purchases from those funds that benefit their volunteer fire departments.

The territory board will select a chairman who will communicate official territory business to Central Command. Central Command will have a chairman, with the chairmanship rotating thru the 3 chiefs on a 1 year term. The Central Command chairman will communicate official business to the territory board chairman.

Tippecanoe Township is established as the provider unit and will be responsible for the duties of the provider unit as established in IC 36-8-19, which includes the formulation of the annual budget for the territory. The participating units will provide annual budget estimates and territory board will resolve a final budget.

Modification of these guidelines can be adopted by resolution of the participating units.

Adopted 03/28/14 by North East Tippecanoe Fire Territory