

Oronoco Township
Olmsted County, MN
June 9, 2025

Since 1931, the Oronoco Township Board has contracted with Pine Island Fire & Rescue for fire and first response services. This year, we faced a decision to sign a contract with Oronoco First Responders but ultimately declined.

What **this** means **for** Oronoco
Township Residents:

- **Homeowners insurance:** No changes. Because the township contracts with Pine Island Fire & **Rescue**, homeowners' insurance is lower than it would be if contracted with Oronoco First Responders.
- **Response times:** Pine Island Fire & Rescue arrives **FASTER** or within the same timeframe in 90% of cases.

Property taxes: No increase. Contracting with an Oronoco First Response team **would** have raised property **taxes**. Oronoco First Response **call** rate **is** higher than the state average leading to higher costs per call. Your safety remains our top priority. The Township Board unanimously voted to continue with Pine Island Fire & Rescue based on their proven efficiency. Oronoco First Responders will still assist in mutual aid calls. We will continue to monitor response times.

For **those** who **witnessed** the unendorsed media campaign by some members of the Oronoco First Responders, the City of Oronoco is taking action and **apologizes for** the misleading and hurtful information. The City of Oronoco has **apologized** for not allowing Oronoco Township to communicate this first to their residents and has apologized for confusion and misinformation. We assure you that these actions by a few individuals will **not** divide our community. The City of Oronoco remains committed to creating an ethically strong First Responder Unit and to working **together** with the township for the **future**.