Rescue service concept still a divisive issue

Continued from Page 1A

FARMINGTON HILLS residents are served by a private ambulance company which services surrounding municipalities. In the last year the quality and effectiveness of private service has been questioned by some residents and firefighters.

Whether the BMS service should be whether the BMS service should be whether the BMS service should be companies has divided city residents or a decade. The question, a political hot potato, never has been resolved. Recently, acting Fire Chief Tom Johnson resigned after endorsing the concept of a city-run EMS service. The majority of the council is opposed to it on the basis of cost.

The \$1.5 million figure would mean the inclusion of 21 more full-time firefighters, something the paid volunteers are reluctant to see, fearing extinction of their rants.

Historically the Hills firefighting

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The mix has caused fiction between some members of the two groups.

IN ITS STUDY the league made eight specific recommendations:

• Farmington Hills residents be provided with the most complete EMS system available by the most cost-of-

- fective means. Farmington Hills make a concert-ed effort to provide emergency medi-cal phone stickers to keep residents in-formed of the 477-0911 number.
- Residents be encouraged to take CPR training.
- Instruction cards with address, emergency number, how to report both medical and other emergencies be posted at phones in every public build-ing and outside public phones.
- EMS personnel be taught through actual tours of schools, YMCA and Mercy Center to become familiar with the best entrance of the buildings to assistance in emergency.
- · Police receive crash management

Whether the EMS service should be run by the city or contracted to private companies has divided city residents for a decade. The question never has been resolved.



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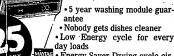
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