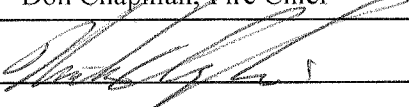


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: May 25, 2010	AGENDA NO. C. 6. a.	SUBJECT: Approve changing the purpose of the Fire grants funds to meet eligibility requirements
Department Head: Don Chapman, Fire Chief		
City Manager:  Nathan M. Cherpeski		
PRESENTED BY: Nathan M. Cherpeski		

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of staff to approve alternative one, authorizing staff to use the grant for the eligible items.

Background

Last year, the City was informed it had received funding from Congress to help the acquisition of a needed aerial ladder truck. Due to a misunderstanding in Washington, the City has been informed that a truck is not an eligible grant expense. After a long process of working with the State agency who controls the money and the Congressman's office, we developed a list of equipment needed by the Fire Department for both its City and County operations. These are items we would have needed to purchase in the future, but can now have an 80% cost share with the Federal government. This will free those capital dollars for the future ladder truck. Per the 5-year capital plan adopted last year, the truck was originally scheduled for purchase in 2012. Staff will continue to work towards that goal now that the grant may not be used to move that project forward. The attached list shows the types of equipment to be purchased. As some of these items support the county fire district, the required match will be reimbursed in part by the district.

These changes will assist the City in the event the City uses City Hall/Fire Station 1 as an emergency operations center. As Council will recall, the City used City Hall in that capacity for the final weeks of the Salmonella event. The Council will likely need to do a resolution in the future designating the City Hall/Fire Station 1 as an emergency operations center in the event that it is needed as such in the future.

Issue Before the Council

Does the City Council wish to approve applying for this grant for the attached items?

Alternatives

Alternative 1. Approve staff applying for this grant.

Alternative 2. Decline to act at this time and give staff further direction.

Fiscal Impact

The City has capital needs every year. A 5-year capital plan is created to help plan for future needs. While the ladder truck is still a need, the lack of a grant does not allow us to proceed in 2010. The truck will go back to the original date for purchase in the year 2012. These other items which would have been purchased in the future will be acquired with this grant. This will free up the planned capital expenditures for these grants for the ladder truck.

Legal Opinion

The City Attorney will be present for any comments.

Conclusion

Since the grant can't be used for the ladder truck as originally thought, this is a good use of the funds allowing us to replace equipment and upgrade capacity while helping with the eventual purchase of the truck.

Attachment:

Grant list

Item	# units	Price per Unit	Total	Local Match	Fed Share
Air Compressor	1	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 44,000
DTR packs	23	\$ 2,265	\$ 52,095	\$ 10,419	\$ 41,676
Paging Repeaters	2	\$ 7,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 12,000
Thermal Camera	2	\$ 14,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 5,600	\$ 22,400
Mobile Computer	2	\$ 3,500	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,400	\$ 5,600
Pagers	20	\$ 500	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,000
Chairs	40	\$ 135	\$ 5,400	\$ 1,080	\$ 4,320
Projector	2	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 800	\$ 3,200
Folding Tables	12	\$ 500	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,800
Intercom System					
Wireless (trucks)	1	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 32,000
Bridgewave Radios	2	\$ 26,200	\$ 52,400	\$ 10,480	\$ 41,920
Backup generator	3	\$ 2,000	\$6,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,800

Totals		\$ 280,895	\$ 56,179	\$ 224,716
	City		\$ 36,120	
	County*		\$ 20,059	

*excludes bridgeway radio costs and back up generator