



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FIRE DEPARTMENT



TO: Edward Lavallee, City Manager

FROM: Shawn Carvey, Interim Fire Chief 

DATE: July 10, 2012

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION, DURING THE JULY 24, COUNCIL MEETING: AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM FOR FUNDING TO REPLACE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS.

Background:

The Venice Fire Department has a history of seeking grants as a matter of fiscal prudence. This memo requests Council's authorization to continue in FEMA's 2012 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) submission process.

There are two types of equipment for which funds are being requested Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) and communication for P25 compliance.

TICs are indispensable tools used during a variety of calls.

- Search and rescues in smoke filled areas.
- Search and rescues in water.
- Identifies possible heat/fire sources.
- Identifies hot spots during structure fire cleanups.

The communication equipment is crucial when responding to calls within our area as well as for interoperability with other agencies. The Department of Homeland Security has set the standard for communications to be P25 compliant. Our current radios and bases do not meet this new requirement nor are they eligible for upgrades. The only equipment eligible for upgrades are the portable units. Another feature of this new equipment will allow the central dispatch center to more effectively locate the closest unit, thereby reducing response times.

The total cost for all the equipment is \$311,075 of which grant funds would be \$279,968 and the City's portion would be \$31,107. The Department is requesting that One Cent Sales Tax funds be used to cover the City's match. It should be noted that the Fire Department submitted a similar request to the AFG 2011 grant cycle and City Council had approved using the same source for the City's match if the grant was awarded. Unfortunately, the grant request was not funded.

The following is a breakdown of the items and cost presented in the grant request.

Item Total	Unit Price	Quantity	Item
70,675	6,425	11	Mobile Radio with mount
19,000	4,750	4	Base Station
144,000	16,000	9	Mobile Data Terminal
2,400	75	32	Reflashing Astro portables
30,000	15,000	2	Motorola Mobex Repeaters
266,075			<i>Subtotal</i>
45,000	9,000	5	Thermal Imaging Cameras
311,075			<i>Total</i>

Requested Action:

Council approval is requested of these (4) items and contingent upon receiving grant award:

- Continue in the grant submission process
- Accept funds as awarded
- Use One Cent Sales Tax funds for City's match
- Purchase items

City Attorney Review: Only if awarded grant.

Risk Management Review: No Review required.

Finance Department Review: Approved.

Funds Availability:

\$279,968	Grant Requested
<u>\$31,107</u>	City Match – Funded through One Cent Sales Tax
\$311,075	Total