



MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance Committee

FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager
Larry Mackey, Fire Chief

DATE: November 18, 2013

RE: Consideration – Authorization for Grant Submissions by Fire Department

BACKGROUND:

The Elizabeth City Fire Department is requesting the support of the City Council in submitting multiple Fire-Fighter Grants this year. These grants have to be prepared and ready for submittal when the window of application is announced.

ANALYSIS:

The Elizabeth City Fire Department is presently seeking grant funding to replace a 22 year old air compressor. The present unit is rated at 4500 psi and cannot refill newer SCBA and rescue air bottles, which are rated at 6000 psi. Maintenance and repair costs have risen steadily over the last three years. We are requesting a \$90,000 replacement grant, which would require a 10% match. This is the only grant that we are seeking that requires a match from the City.

Other grants that we would like to submit are a regional grant to Firehouse Subs to replace an older thermal imaging camera, and several applications to the State and local insurance organizations to purchase smoke and CO detectors. Grant funding specific to the fire service is very rare and we are seeking this prior authorization in order that as we become aware of funding opportunities we can move to take advantage of them pursuant to City guidelines.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, recommend that the City Council authorize the Fire Department to submit grant applications as described herein.

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