City of Benson
City Council Communication

Regular Meeting **January 22, 2018**

To: Mayor and Council Agenda Item # 3

From: Keith Spangler, Fire Chief

Subject:

Discussion and possible regarding Resolution 3-2018 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, authorizing the City Manager and/or the Fire Chief to apply for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for communication equipment (Portable Radios)

Discussion:

This is a regional grant that the Cochise County Fire Association hired a grant writer to write. The grant will be for communication equipment, specifically portable radios. There are 12 agencies in this regional grant. The department is looking to get approximately 15 portable radios from this grant.

Fry Fire District will host the grant, so a Memorandum of Understanding will have to be signed to show that the Benson Fire Department will pay the 10% match.

Staff Recommendation:

Council pleasure

RESOLUTION 3-2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENSON, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR THE FIRE CHIEF TO APPLY FOR AN ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER'S GRANT FOR COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT (PORTABLE RADIOS)

WHEREAS, there is an Assistance to Firefighter's grant available to potentially supply the Benson Volunteer Fire Department with communication equipment consisting of up to fifteen (15) portable radios; and

WHEREAS the Cochise County Fire Association has hired a grant writer to write and apply for said grant; and

WHEREAS the Fry Fire District has agreed to host said grant; and

WHEREAS, the City and its Volunteer Fire Department believe it is in their best interests to have said communications equipment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, that the City Manager and/or Fire Chief is hereby authorized and directed as follows: 1) do all things reasonably necessary - including but not limited to working with the City's Attorneys to enter into a final Memorandum of Understanding with the Fry Fire District consistent with draft of such attached as Exhibit A hereto – to have application made for an Assistance to Firefighter's grant that will potentially supply the Benson Volunteer Fire Department with communication equipment consisting of up to fifteen (15) portable radios; 2) prepare funding and budget proposals and projections for inclusion in the City's future budgets that set forth the means for acquiring said communications equipment if this grant is awarded.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, this 22nd day of January, 2018.

_____
TONEY D. KING, SR., Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
VICKI L. VIVIAN, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
MESCH CLARK ROTHSCHILD, City's Attorneys
by Gary J. Cohen

Memorandum of Understanding
between the Fry Fire District and eleven fire fighting agencies within Cochise County
in support of a regional request under the
2017-18 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Whereas local firefighters serving their respective fire departments and fire districts within Cochise County are currently operating under automatic aid agreements and utilizing outdated and unreliable radio equipment;

Whereas the radio equipment has or is nearing the end of its service life and are not compliant with current NFPA standards; and

Whereas it is the goal of the participating fire agencies to increase the safety and effectiveness of their firefighters and further streamline operational efficiency;

the Fry Fire District, Benson Fire Department, Douglas Fire Department, Elfrida Fire District, Pomerene Fire District, Portal Fire District, St. David Fire District, Sierra Vista Fire Department, Sunsites-Pearce Fire District, Tombstone Fire Department, and Willcox Fire Department enter into the following agreement this 1st day of February, 2018:

1. To complete and submit a joint application under the 2018 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, no later than February 1 2018, for a regional request in the amount of approximately $_____ to support the purchase of approximately _____ new NFPA compliant radios.
2. The regional application will be submitted by the Fry Fire District.
3. Should the grant be awarded, it will be the responsibility of each agency to independently approve and provide capital funding, in an amount of not less than 10% of the total purchase price, in proportion to their purchases.
4. Should the grant be awarded, it will be the responsibility of the Fry Fire District to manage capital purchases, complete and submit grant documentation, and obtain reimbursement.
5. Should the grant be awarded, each agency will assume independent responsibility for any and all associated maintenance and testing required.

Agreed to on February 1, 2018 by the following fire departments and fire districts:

Signature Fry Fire District

Signature Benson Fire Department

Signature Douglas Fire Department

Signature Elfrida Fire District

Signature Pomerene Fire District

Signature Portal Fire District

Signature St. David Fire District

Signature Sierra Vista Fire Department

Signature Sonoita Fire District

Signature Sunsites-Pearce Fire District

Signature Tombstone Fire Department

Signature Willcox Fire Department