



CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

January 3, 2012

TO: John Szerlag, City Manager

FROM: Tom Darling, Interim Financial Services Director
William S. Nelson, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Acceptance of the 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Background

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program is a grant program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that was created by Congress to assist local fire departments in purchasing needed equipment and training. Troy has submitted annual AFG grant applications since the inception of the program in 2001 and this is the fourth AFG grant that has been awarded to the Troy Fire Department. This grant was awarded to permit the fire department to purchase a standardized accountability system for incident scenes and provide Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) training for department members.

Fire departments are required by national standards to maintain real time accountability of all personnel on scene at incidents. The MABAS mutual aid system utilizes a standardized system which permits multiple mutual aid fire departments to interoperate seamlessly at incidents. This system is different than the locally developed "tag" system that is currently utilized. This grant will permit the fire department to switch to the standardized system.

Fire departments are also required by national standards to provide a Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) at any incidents where firefighters enter IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health) atmospheres. The purpose of the RIC is to provide immediate rescue capability in the event firefighters in the IDLH area become trapped or are otherwise unable to self rescue. This grant will permit the fire department to provide specialized training for fire department personnel.

Financial Considerations

The grant is for \$25,000 and requires a local match of 20% or \$5,000. The fire department has budgeted funds in the current operating budget to for equipment and training which will be utilized for the match.

Legal Considerations

There are no legal considerations regarding the acceptance of this grant.

Policy Considerations

Acceptance of this grant and the purchase of the protective equipment supports the volunteer firefighters who help to make this a safe community. (Outcome Statement I)

Recommendation

City management recommends that the AFG grant be accepted in the amount of \$25,000 with a local match of \$5,000 which is budgeted in the Fire Department operating budget.