

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and City Council DATE: October 1, 2014

FROM: Scott Burnette, Fire Department Chief

VIA: Gary Jackson, City Manager

SUBJECT: Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team 6 - Asheville - Grant

Summary Statement: The consideration of (1) a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a non-matching grant from the N.C. Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, for the procurement of equipment to be used by Hazardous materials Regional Response Team 6 – Asheville; and (2) the associated budget amendment, in the amount of \$27,400.

Review: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) has made funds available through State Homeland Security Grant Number: EMW-2014-SS-00069-S01 to implement the State Homeland Security Strategy. The strategy identifies the NC Hazardous Materials Regional Response Teams (RRT) as an integral component of North Carolina's preparation and response to manmade and natural emergencies and disasters. The purpose of the grant is to purchase specialized equipment to be used on-scene and to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate, and recover from potential acts of terrorism and other hazardous or catastrophic events.

There are seven Regional Response Teams (RRT) strategically located throughout the state. Asheville Fire and Rescue hosts one of the seven state funded teams - RRT 6. The team responds to hazardous materials incidents in the twenty westernmost counties of North Carolina.

Each of the seven RRTs will receive an equal amount of non-matching funding and each will procure comparable equipment. The equipment consists of updated existing equipment and for training.

The grant is non-matching and all equipment provided through this grant will become the property of the Asheville City Government.

This action complies with the Strategic Operating Plan by better equipping the Hazardous Materials Team with upgraded equipment; this grant will assist in making Asheville a safer city, based on appropriate metrics for similarly sized cities.

Pros:

- The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, will provide \$27,400 in non-matching funds for the purpose of upgrading Asheville and Western North Carolina's terrorism response capabilities.
- The equipment is state of the art and will better address the risk of terrorist's attacks and hazardous materials incidents.
- All statewide regional response teams will be comparably equipped and interoperability will be realized should an event require the resources of additional teams.

- This equipment is immediately available to Asheville residents and businesses. This level of equipment would most likely not be able to be obtained through the city's general budget process.
- Firefighter and citizen safety will be enhanced.

Con:

- The City of Asheville will be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the equipment.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact associated with this grant, as it is non-matching.

Recommendation: City staff recommends that City Council (1) authorize the City Manager to accept the non-matching grant from the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, to enhance AFD's capabilities to protect Asheville and Western North Carolina; and (2) adopt the associated budget amendment.

Attachments:

(1) Resolution

(2) Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A NON MATCHING GRANT FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FUNDS TO BE USED BY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM 6 – ASHEVILLE

WHEREAS, the City has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-17.1 to apply for and receive grants from the State and Federal government, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management has awarded RRT 6 – Asheville a non-matching grant in the amount of \$27,400 for the purchase of specialized equipment to be used on-scene and to prepare for threatened or actual weapons of mass destruction or domestic terrorists attacks or major disasters, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, for a non-matching grant in the amount of \$27,400.00 to purchase equipment to be used on-scene and to prepare for threatened or actual weapons of mass destruction or domestic terrorists attacks or major disasters.

Read, approved and adopted this ____ day of October, 2014.

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That the City of Asheville Annual Operating or Capital Projects Budget Ordinance be amended according to the budget amendment form attached to and made part of this ordinance.

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this ____ day of October, 2014.

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

PURPOSE: Accept non-matching grant from N.C. Dept. of
Public Safety for Hazardous materials
Regional Response Team 6 – Asheville