



City Council Memorandum

To: Mayor Fasbender & City Council Members

From: John Townsend, Fire Chief

Date: February 15, 2023

Item: Approve Fire Department Submitting for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Application

Council Action Requested:

Approve fire department submitting for SAFER grant application.

Background Information:

FEMA has opened up the SAFER grant process. This grant opportunity opened February 13, 2023 with a deadline of March 17, 2023. This grant provides funding for additional new firefighter positions for a period of 36 months. There are no matching dollars during the 36-month period. At the end of the grant funding, for these positions, they become the responsibility of the City.

The department would request funding for two additional full-time firefighters.

Two additional full-time firefighters would move us forward from the four hires in 2023. These hires will be working a power truck schedule increasing our staffing for 12 hours each day to 7 on-duty staff. The additional two staff will allow for these staff to increase to 7 on shift for the full 24-hour shift. This will increase each of the three shifts from five to seven staff on each of our 24-hour shifts. This increase in full-time staff would allow the department to staff more appropriately for an effective response force. This increase in staff will also have an impact on decreasing overtime to our full-time staff.

Financial Impact:

Estimated costs covered by grant for the initial 36 months:

Year	Cost/FTE	Cost for 2
2024	\$142,158.	\$284,317.
2024	\$147,538.	\$295,077.
2025	\$153,192.	\$306,384.

City Costs after the 36-month grant period:

2026* 159,138. \$318,276

Advisory Commission Discussion: N/A

Council Committee Discussion: N/A

Council Workshop: Discussed department needs and operations at council workshops in previous years budget cycle.

Attachments: None