



Watertown City Council
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
7:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION AGENDA

Discussion Items:

1. City Center Industrial Park – Rail Project
 - Donald W. Rutherford, Watertown Local Development Corporation
 - Michael A. Lumbis, Planning and Community Development Director
2. Town of Pamela Water Project
 - John Condino, Barton & Loguidice
3. Water/Sewer Service Lines Curb to Curb
 - Vicky L. Murphy, Water Superintendent
4. Emerald Ash Borer Management
 - Michael DeMarco, Planner
5. 2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan
 - Michael A. Lumbis, Planning and Community Development Director

Staff Report

1. Update on Funding Opportunity – Fire Department



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FIRE DEPARTMENT
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Dale C. Herman, Fire Chief
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TO: Mr. K. Mix, City Manager

FROM: D. Herman, Fire Chief *DC H*

DATE: February 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Funding Opportunity

At the last City Council meeting, Mayor Smith requested additional information with regards to the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) opportunity. He expressed concerns that the application may have strings attached.

I will briefly outline the process and highlight known obligations, but if Council wishes to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) document, it is found using the following link: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/185574>.

The AFG has been offered as a funding source since the 9/11 attacks. The NOFO states the intended purpose of the funding is giving priority items that are essential to providing basic fire protection and emergency medical services to communities with a high emphasis on Firefighter Safety. Our history with this funding opportunity through AFG has allowed us to purchase, turnout gear, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, pagers, large diameter supply hose, upgrade our radios to allow for UHF trunking, and gear washers and dryers.

This year's application period is from February 3 through 5 pm on March 13 with \$315,000,000 in funds to allocate among a projected 2,500 awards. Fire Departments, non-affiliated EMS organizations and State Fire Training Academies are all eligible to submit applications.

If awarded, the grantee has 1 year from time of award to complete the funded project, must agree to provide information to NFIRS, the National Fire Incident Reporting System, follow local procurement procedures and provide routine reports about the progress of the project. The department has been participating in this reporting to NFIRS since the 1980's and all of our projects are of such a size that they can be completed within the 1 year performance period.

Following the advice of the NOFO and webinar sessions attended by fire department staff, our best chances for a successful application is to express a need that is a high priority for a Suburban agency. Based on the NOFO, the acquisition of attack hose and appliances to replace old and obsolete equipment is listed as a high priority.

Our department's needs assessment is to purchase new fire attack hose in various sizes for a budgeted total of \$77,259. Along with the hoses is a need for appliances, such as nozzles, intake valves and foam eductors for a budgeted total of \$10,893. The total project cost is \$88,152 with the City being responsible for 10% of the total project cost of \$8,815.

There is a need for both new attack hose and appliances, if we do not apply for this funding opportunity, we will need to purchase this equipment through our department operations budget.

I will not be in attendance that night due to a previous commitment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.