FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
               Cinda Hilger, Administrative Secretary

FROM: Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief

DATE: October 1, 2018

SUBJECT: Request authorization to submit grant request to DHS AFG

INTRODUCTION:
Request to apply for a grant through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) packs. The grant opened up on September 24, 2018 and closes October 26, 2018. City Policy is to have council approval on grants that require a city match.

BACKGROUND:
The DHS offers grant submittals annually. FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) provides funding for the essentials that firefighters and first responders need to be safe and effective on the job. If awarded, and the city accepts, the federal match is 90 % of the total cost, which leaves a 10 % city match. Currently, we are requesting to apply for a grant for 42 SCBA packs with face pieces and radio interface. The original purchase of our current SCBA packs were in 2001 with an AFG grant and a 10% city match. A grant application for SCBA's was submitted last year, but was not funded.

The request at this time is just to fill out and submit the grant prior to the grant deadline of October 26, 2018. If the grant request is awarded, the city has the option at that time to accept or deny the grant. If accepted, the city's obligation would be to pay the 10% match of the awarded grant. If denied, it may have a negative effect on future grant application requests.

The anticipated cost of purchasing 42 SCBA packs and face pieces are $ 292,438. If awarded and if the city would accept the grant, then the cities 10% match for the SCBA packs would be approximately $ 29,244.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:
We are requesting that City Council authorize the Muscatine Fire Department to fill out a grant application and submit it to the Department of Homeland Security for 42 new SCBA packs. If the grant is awarded, and the city accepts the grant, then there would be a 10% city match.

"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain