

Wilmington, Delaware
June 20, 2019

#4675

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Williams

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council's approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Fire Department, applied for a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") in the amount of \$24,000; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Department intends to use the grant money to fund two separate communication security projects, and

WHEREAS, a portion of the grant, in the amount of \$10,000, will be used to outfit both Fire Boat 7 and Marine 7 with Class A Automatic Identification Systems ("AIS") with secure text messaging and interagency operations;

WHEREAS, AIS are intended to allow ships to view marine traffic in their area and to be seen by that traffic; and

WHEREAS, the new secure AIS will be used to replace the current Class B AIS system with the new enhanced system; and

WHEREAS, the new enhanced AIS will enable Fire Department vessels to communicate with Coast Guard and public safety boats using a secure encrypted messaging system; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the grant, in the amount of \$14,000, will be used to acquire two multi-band portable radios for Marine 7 and Fire Boat 7 for use with multi-jurisdictional interoperability communications; and

WHEREAS, the current portable vessel radios are technologically limited and are unable to function in other jurisdictions that do not utilize the 800 MHz radio system. The new multi-band portable radios would enable Marine 7 and Fire Boat 7 to operate in other jurisdictions without utilizing a radio patch from a 911 center; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Fire Department's grant application to FEMA in the amount of \$24,000 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of the Wilmington Fire Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Fire Department's application for a grant from FEMA in the amount of \$24,000. The grant will enable the City to fund two separate communications projects that will allow secure communications within the agency and with other public safety agencies.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City as no local matching funds are required.