

Committee in Control: Finance and Personnel

Subject: Communications from Alderperson Taft on behalf of the fire department requesting permission to apply for and if awarded accept the 2021 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) SAFER Grant .

Fiscal Note: This grant is for \$3,200,000.00 and will restore the nine firefighter/paramedic positions lost in the 2021 fire department. Per the 2021 AFG SAFER grant guidance document there is **NO** maintenance of effort and **NO** cost share or match.

Narrative: This Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program is for the fiscal year 2022 through 2025. This grant is a highly competitive program with fire departments from across the nation competing for a limited amount of funding.

The objectives of the AFG-SAFER Program are to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to respond to emergencies and assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Local fire departments accomplish this by improving staffing and deployment capabilities, so they may more effectively and safely respond to emergencies. With enhanced staffing levels, recipients should experience a reduction in response times and an increase in the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene.

Fire departments operating in any of the 50 states, as well as fire departments in the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,¹ or any federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization. A fire department is an agency or organization having a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local, tribal, or territorial authority (city, county, parish, fire district, township, town, or other governing body) to provide fire suppression to a population within a geographically fixed primary first due response area.

The Hiring Activity offers grants to support applications to hire new, additional firefighters (or to change the status of part-time or paid-on-call firefighters to full-time firefighters), rehire laid off firefighters, or to retain firefighters facing layoff.

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) - There is no MOE or minimum budget requirement for the FY 2021 SAFER Program and there is no cost share or match or position cost limit for the FY 2021 SAFER Program.

Anticipated Award Date: No later than September 30, 2022).

Grant Control Number in process.

Respectfully submitted

Steve Hansen, Fire Chief