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**FIRE DEPARTMENT****MEMORANDUM**

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator  
Fran Donelson, Administrative Secretary

FROM: Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief

DATE: November 17, 2014

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 a new 3,000 gallon Water Tender (Tanker). The grant opened up on November 3rd and closes on December 5th, 2014.

**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 a new 3,000 gallon Water Tender (Tanker) for supplying water to the newly annexed areas that is without fire hydrants. This new Water Tender will replace the used 1978 Water Tender that was purchased in 2012. The 1978 Water Tender was intended for a short term temporary solution for lack of water supply. NFPA recommends emergency vehicles to be taken out of service after 25 years.

The request at this time is just to fill out and submit the grant prior to the grant deadline of December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. 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 cost of a new Water Tender (Tanker) is \$ 272,000. If awarded and if the city would accept the grant, then the city's 10% match for a new Water Tender would not exceed \$ 27,200.

**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 a new 3,000 gallon Water Tender. If the grant is awarded, and the city accepts the grant, then there would be a 10% city match.