AGENDA No. 831

I CALL TO ORDER DATE: December 2, 2021
II MOMENT OF SILENCE TIME: 6:30 p.m.
III PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE PLACE: Videoconference
IV ROLL CALL
V PUBLIC COMMENT
VI APPROVAL OF MINUTES
VII NEW BUSINESS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull, Connecticut will hold its meeting on December 2, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via videoconference for the following purpose:

Town Council Special Meeting
Dec 2, 2021 6:30 PM
Join the meeting online:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83446411504?pwd=TGJNSUFoS3RTOWZKeIz6z0RGSWYw9z0
Webinar ID: 834 4641 1504
Password: 257406

Join by telephone: (929) 205-6099 or (833) 548-0276 (Toll Free) / Webinar ID: 834 4641 1504

1. RESOLUTION TC28-218: To consider and act upon a resolution which authorizes the submission of the funding application for Trumbull EMS radios under the DHS/FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, and authorizes First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro or her designee as the individual authorized to sign the application and all subsequent amendments, reports and related documents in order to accept, administer and implement the project.

VIII ADJOURNMENT

COPY OF THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED HERETO
Dawn Cantafio, Chairman, Trumbull Town Council

RESOLUTION

1. RESOLUTION TC28-218: BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull Town Council is cognizant of and authorizes the submission of the funding application for Trumbull EMS radios under the DHS/FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, and authorizes First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro or her designee as the individual authorized to sign the application and all subsequent amendments, reports and related documents in order to accept, administer and implement the project. (Full Resolution Attached)
RESOLUTION TC28-218:

Whereas, the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers competitive grants through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program; and
Whereas, grants are to be used for projects in three activity areas: operations and safety; vehicle acquisition; and regional projects; and
Whereas, equipment purchases, including radios, qualify under the operations and safety activity area; and
Whereas, the Trumbull Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is an eligible applicant and an unaffiliated service; and
Whereas, the Trumbull EMS seeks to apply for funding for new radios in an amount not to exceed $400,000; and
Whereas, the cost share for the town of Trumbull will be 10 percent of the total project costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull Town Council is cognizant of and authorizes the submission of the funding application for Trumbull EMS radios under the DHS/FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, and authorizes First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro or her designee as the individual authorized to sign the application and all subsequent amendments, reports and related documents in order to accept, administer and implement the project.
Submitted by:
Leigh Goodman, Chief of Emergency Medical Services
Andrew Weber, EMS Clinical Supervisor
Town of Trumbull
Trumbull EMS Request for Funding Application

Trumbull Emergency Medical Services is respectfully requesting permission to apply for the 2021 AFG grant to support the purchase of a new communications system.

The Trumbull EMS communications system is essential in order for us to continue to provide safe and reliable 911 prehospital medical services.

We have identified the 2021 AFG grant which allocates funds for “nonaffiliated EMS organizations” such as ours to apply for a grant which would cover 90% of our costs with a 10% cost share with the Town of Trumbull.

We anticipate needing to replace our communications system in the very near future. Due to aging inventory, along with community and industry growth, our radio system will require significant updates we must work on implementing our strategic replacement plan in order to ensure continuity of operations.

Trumbull EMS will work with key stakeholders to write the funding request, ensuring we explain, document and provide thorough background information on the following 5 key areas:

- Organization (and the community you serve)
- Financial Need
- Project Description/Budget Justification
- Operations and Safety/Cost Benefit
- Statement of Effect/Impact on Daily Operations

Discussion to include an overview of current TEMS communications system and inventory, AFG budget projection & TEMS long term communications strategic plan.
OVERVIEW

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program is one of three grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) focus on enhancing the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards.

The AFG Program provides financial assistance directly to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTAs) for critical training and equipment.

The program provides critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

The 2018-2022 FEMA Strategic Plan creates a shared vision for the field of emergency management and sets an ambitious, yet achievable, path forward to unify and further professionalize emergency management across the country. The AFG Program supports the goal of Readying the Nation for Catastrophic Disasters.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the AFG Program are to provide critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

PRIORITIES

Operations & Safety: Equipment
Our current communications system is antiquated, and due to technological advances, unable to be integrated into modern communication systems. Our radio equipment consists of devices which were purchased over several years since we began to expand our operation. Recently, we have had challenges in securing replacement parts to assist us in maintaining these important communication tools.

The equipment we are requesting is considered by the AFG to be high priority equipment needed to achieve minimal operational and deployment standards. The grant applies to equipment that is deemed obsolete, and/or is out of compliance with current equipment standards. We have put together a proposal to purchase equipment that meets all current guidelines as required by SAFECOM* and are P-25** compliant.

The system meets guidance on the following national critical components for advancing communications:

Enhance effective governance across partners with a stake in emergency communications, embracing a shared responsibility of the whole community from traditional emergency responders and supporting entities to the citizens served.

Address interoperability challenges posed by rapid technology advancements and increased information sharing, ensuring the most critical information gets to the right people at the right time.

Build resilient and secure emergency communications systems to reduce cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities.
SAFECOM is a communications program of the Department of Homeland Security.

SAFECOM is currently comprised of more than 70 members representing federal, state, local, and tribal emergency responders, and major intergovernmental communications interoperability through collaboration with emergency responders and policymakers. SAFECOM was formed in 2001, after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. SAFECOM has been instrumental in building the public safety communications community.

Example, SAFECOM was a strong advocate for the deployment of a national public safety broadband network, which resulted in the passing of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. This bill authorized the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to plan for, build, and deploy a nationwide network to help public safety responders and officials communicate efficiently during emergencies.

SAFECOM members offer insight and lessons learned on governance, planning, training, exercises, and technologies, including knowledge of equipment and standards, requirement, and use. SAFECOM members also provide input on the challenges, needs, and best practices of emergency communications, and work in coordination with Department of Homeland Security.

**ABOUT P25**

P25 is a multi-phase, multi-year project to establish a standards profile for the operations and functionality of digital narrowband private LMR (land mobile radio) systems that meet the operational needs of the public safety communications community. This project has the goal of:

- Maximizing radio frequency spectrum use
- Ensuring competition among manufacturers throughout the equipment lifecycle, from initial procurement through replacement
- Enabling effective, efficient, and reliable intra-agency and inter-agency communications
- Providing “user friendly” equipment that reduces the amount of mental and physical interaction by the operator, and
- Providing a path for migration from analog technology to digital P25

Click here for SAFECOM information video

Click here for P25 Information Video
Additional Documentation

The following documents are available online & can be provided on request:

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) FY2021 AFG Program
- FY21 AFG Cost Share Calculator
- FY21 AFG Frequently Asked Questions
- FY21 AFG Grant Program Narrative Get Ready Guide
- FY21 AFG Communications Project Guide
- FY21 AFG Full Webinar Powerpoint
- FY21 AFG Self Evaluation Sheet
- SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants FY21
- TEMS Interagency Operability Mapping