



STAFF REPORT
Public Hearing 9-6-22

AGENDA ITEM #: 22-87
COUNCIL MTG OF: August 2, 2022
FROM: Dave Caron, Town Administrator
OFFERED BY: James Richardson, Fire Chief
PREPARED BY: Chuck Hemeon, Director of EMS
SUBJECT: Assistance to Firefighters Grant Request

PURPOSE:

Recommendation to apply for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for the purpose of outfitting the departments five ambulances with Stryker Power Load Systems used to load and unload the patient stretcher and upgrade department patient stretchers.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

The Fire Department is requesting permission to apply for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The amount of this grant request is approximately \$420,500 with a 10% cost share. The Town's cost share would be funded through the capital improvement fund. If awarded, this grant funding would support purchase and installation of five Stryker Power Load 6390 devices and five Power Pro 2 stretchers includes installation and ProCare service agreements.

BACKGROUND:

EMS personnel face a myriad of challenges on the job every day. One in four EMS worker will suffer a career-ending back injury within their first four years in the field. The number one cause- lifting. The Power Pro II stretcher eliminates the risk associated with lifting a patient's dead weight once loaded on the stretcher and the Stryker Loading System improves operator safety by supporting the cot throughout the loading and unloading process. Use of the Power Pro stretcher and Loading system has demonstrated a reduction in spinal loading, resulting in reduced injuries, lost or modified workdays and Workers Compensation costs as well as, increased recruitment and retention.

DISCUSSION:

Currently two EMS Providers are required to lift the rear of the stretcher during loading/unloading of the patient. Stryker guarantees a 50% reduction on cot-related injuries pertaining to raising, lowering, and loading unloading the Power Pro 2 stretcher and the Power Load system. The Power Pro 2 and the Power Load lifts patients weighting up to 700 pounds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Soft (in-kind) matches are not allowed with the AFG. The capital improvement fund would be used to support this expenditure and there would be no impact on the operating budget.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL:

Allow the Town Administrator, on behalf Fire Department, to apply for the AFG for the purchase, installation, of five Stryker Power Load Systems with Power Load Stretchers to include service agreements and associated equipment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Please see Resolution #2022-059