THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: September 22, 2020

Subject: Contract agreement for State Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team Number Six (6)

Staff Resource(s): Scott Burnette, Asheville Fire Chief; Abby Moore, Emergency Management Specialist

Action Requested: Adoption of 2020 Contract Agreement for the State Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team Number Six (6).

Background:

- North Carolina is divided into seven geographical regions for the purpose of hazardous material emergency response.
- The North Carolina Department of Public Safety contracts with municipalities across North Carolina to respond into the geographical regions and provide technician level hazardous materials emergency response.
- The region's six areas encompass the westernmost twenty counties.
- The City of Asheville has been a regional hazardous materials provider since Fiscal Year 1994-1995.
- The State of North Carolina provides funding that fully supports the operational costs of the program.
- The City receives $69,000 annually for administration, equipment, training, medical surveillance, and workman's compensation.
- The truck and equipment provided to the City by the State for use on State and local hazmat missions are valued at $1.5 million.
- The City is reimbursed at 100% of the costs expended when the team is deployed for a state mission.
- City Council approved an extension of the current agreement due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management wanted to activate the fifth-year extension clause of the agreement for four months with the City of Asheville for Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Services from July 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020.
- The new agreement is for November 1, 2020 - June 30, 2024.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Contract is with the State of North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management.

Council Goal(s):

- Smart City

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- The State of North Carolina provides the hazardous materials response truck, all response equipment and provides for administrative costs of operating the team.
- In addition, the state funds extensive training for members of the Asheville Fire Department to enable us to competently handle hazardous materials emergencies.

- The City of Asheville has full use of the truck and all specialty equipment within the City of Asheville.
- Without the state hazardous materials contract, Asheville taxpayers would need to provide much of the resources necessary to properly respond to hazardous materials emergencies within Asheville.
- With the contract, we have the advantage of the equipment and resources being funded at the state level, rather than at the local level.
- During the twenty nine years that the City has provided regional hazardous materials response services, the City has not experienced difficulties or disadvantages with the program. This program is also consistent with the City's Strategic Operating Plan in partnership.
- Firefighter and citizen safety will be enhanced.

Con(s):

- None have been identified or known at this time

Fiscal Impact:

- The City receives a $69,000 reimbursement annually for training, equipment, medical surveillance, and worker's compensation.

Suggested Motion:

- Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into the four year contract agreement with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety to provide regional hazardous materials emergency response for region 6.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM - 6 ASHEVILLE

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. 166-A to enter into mutual aid agreements with the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the City entered into a Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Agreement (herein “Agreement”) with the State of North Carolina on November 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, funds are available from the State of North Carolina through the Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management for provision of Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency and Response; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina agrees to provide specialized equipment and materials for use by the City of Asheville; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has the staff, expertise and commitment to provide regional hazardous materials emergency response services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to adopt the contract for the Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team 6 from North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management , and further authorized to accept the budget amendment associated with the acceptance of the contract.

Read, approved and adopted this the 22nd day of September, 2020.

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____
City Attorney