THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

Subject: Amendment to the terms of the 2019 agreement with Advent Health to provide annual physical examinations for firefighters for an additional six months for a total cost of the agreement to be $117,300.

Staff Resource(s): Scott Burnette, Fire Chief
Abigail Riley, Fire Finance Analyst

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the terms of the 2019 agreement with Advent Health to provide annual physical examinations for firefighters in 2019 in the amount of $117,300.

Background:

- The current Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 agreement with Advent Health allocates $89,125 and allows firefighters to receive required annual physical examinations in accordance with standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Association.
- The original term of the FY2019 contract was July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.
- The Asheville Fire Department (AFD) and Advent agreed to amend the original agreement to extend the term of the contract to December 31, 2019, but no funds were added to the contract.
- Due to the way in which Advent processes patients, bills those patients, and invoices those patients, there were some discrepancies with invoicing and billing for firefighter physicals.
- During the six month extension period, AFD and Advent were working out the correct number of employees and the services they received during this time to ensure the correct amount of funds were available and added to the agreement at the expiration of the extension.
- Furthermore, the original term of the agreement date ending alongside the end of the fiscal year caused logistical difficulties in contract renewal and service conducted--waiting for the new fiscal year's funding to renew the agreement and/or enter a new agreement with Advent Health meant ceasing firefighter physicals for the duration it took to get the amendment executed.
- The Asheville Fire Department and Advent Health did not want to have this break in service because of the extremely difficult nature of conducting 275 physicals in a 52 week period (and alternatively 413 physicals in a 76 week period).
- All firefighter physicals conducted between July 1, 2018 and December 31, 2019 were assigned to the FY19 contract and Advent has correctly and appropriately invoiced the City for the remaining physicals conducted from July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.
- The agreement needs to include an additional six months of firefighter physicals at the cost of $40,175. This brings the total cost of the contract to $117,300, which pushes the contract above the $90,000 threshold.
- The Asheville Fire Department and Advent Health have entered into a new agreement for FY20 with a changed scope of service for firefighter physicals. The new agreement term is for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 in the amount of $77,125.
- This new agreement term no longer aligns with the end of the fiscal year and remediates the logistical difficulties the Department was having with agreement execution versus physicals conducted.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Prior to entering the original contract with Advent Health, similar organizations were solicited to provide estimates of their services. SiteMed, which held the contract previously, did not provide the organizational efficiency needed to examine 275 firefighters throughout the course of the year. The costs of Mission Hospital's services were prohibitive. Thus, the services and costs of Advent Health best fit the mission of Asheville Fire Department's desire to provide its firefighters with the best care to meet and exceed health standards while controlling costs. A review of the costs, operational efficiencies, and satisfaction of the firefighters with the services, factored into making the determination to renew the agreement with Advent Health.
- No MWBE firms were identified for this contract.

Council Goal(s):

- Smart City

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Meets best practices for the industry by complying with consensus standards of NFPA 1582 that will reduce risks and provide for the health, safety, and effectiveness of firefighters
- Allows for the continued medical monitoring and testing of firefighters to ensure they are fit for the challenges of emergency response

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for the physicals is included in the adopted FY 2019 – 2020 budget, thus there are no additional impacts.

Suggested Motion:

- Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend the agreement with Advent Health for $117,300 for firefighter physicals.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND AN AGREEMENT WITH ADVENT HEALTH TO PROVIDE FIREFIGHTER PHYSICALS

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes to enter into contracts for services with other entities; and

WHEREAS, the Asheville Fire Department provides annual medical monitoring, physicals, and x-rays for firefighters; and

WHEREAS, the FY19 agreement was extended six months from its original iteration of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 to become the term of July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, billing and invoice issues of services involved in firefighter physicals arose during the original term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, no funds were placed on the contract due to the billing and invoice issues when the term was extended; and

WHEREAS, the Asheville Fire Department and Advent Health did not want to suspend firefighter physicals for a duration of time it would take to work out the billing and invoice issues and add funds to the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Asheville Fire Department in conjunction with Advent Health worked to fix those issues in the extended six months of agreement; and

WHEREAS, an additional six months of firefighter physicals were performed by Advent Health and all billing and invoice issues were resolved; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the amendment is $40,175 and the funds have been budgeted in the Asheville Fire Department's Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020 budget; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the FY19 agreement over its life is currently $117,300;

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

The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into a contract amendment to the FY19 Agreement with Advent Health which provides an additional $40,175, for a total contract value of $117,300, for Annual Firefighter Physicals conducted during that time.

Read, approved and adopted this the 9th day of June, 2020.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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