

AGENDA ITEM #: _____

DATE: March 2, 2020

CAR #: #2020-6918



CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to submit the Certificate of Necessity Ambulance Application.

STAFF PRESENTER(S): Paul Luizzi, Fire Chief

OTHER PRESENTER(S):

Summary: Authorize the City Manager or designee to submit the Certificate of Necessity (CON) Ambulance Application to the Arizona Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends allowing the City Manager or designee to submit the CON application. Staff has been actively working with our outside legal counsel and finance to finalize the application.

Fiscal Impact: The CON application has a one-time application filing fee of \$100.00. Once the application is approved the approved FY2020 budget accounts for purchase of equipment, ambulances and personnel to support the 1st year start-up with anticipated operations in FY2021. The phase-in plan would suggest adding one additional ambulance as required until we reach full operations of four (4) ambulances.

It is anticipated that starting the initial phase of Ambulance service will require approximately \$750,000 of equipment and that the City operation will experience an annual net operating loss of approximately \$450,000. Based on current projections and service standards this operational loss will be reduced and then eliminated as additional phases are brought on-line.

Background and Previous Actions

The city of Goodyear is continually striving to provide the highest level of service to its community members in the most efficient and effective way possible. A CON would give the city full authority to transport 911 patients and subsequently bill healthcare insurances for services rendered.

In September 2014, Council was briefed via “Yellow Paper” regarding emergency ambulance transport issues. In May of 2015, the Fire Chief and Gabe Buldra from the James Vincent Group provided an overview during a work session to Council on the ambulance feasibility study that was completed. Most recently, the City Manager’s “Memo to Council” provided a briefing of the ambulance industry issues in Arizona, the company selected through the RFP process (James Vincent Group), and the ambulance service feasibility study scope of work.

The fire department has been actively working on the CON application over the last 2 years and recently had it submitted to Arizona Bureau of EMS for courtesy review.

Staff Analysis

The application has been completed and a courtesy review was completed by Arizona Bureau of EMS. Once the application is fully submitted to the Bureau of EMS then they have 420 days to complete their findings. This may be further complicated if the application is contested which would require a hearing with an administrative law judge and could extend this timeframe. We still feel the importance of going through this process to control our own future with regards to providing ambulance service.

Attachments

Courtesy Review Letter