

RESOLUTION NO. 1763

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND .
ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF A
SPECIAL OPERATIONS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TRAILER AND ASSOCIATED
EQUIPMENT TO BE USED BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO
MITIGATE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS.

WHEREAS, the Fire Department desired to replace its existing hazardous materials response
vehicle with a unit that would enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness; and,

WHEREAS, the Fire Department made application for grant funds for this purpose from a
program administered by the United States (US) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designed to
assist fire departments with the acquisition of tools and equipment to enhance their operations; and,

WHEREAS, the Fire Department has been offered a grant award in the amount of \$175,000.00
from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program to be used for the purchase of a special
operations hazardous materials response trailer and associated equipment; and

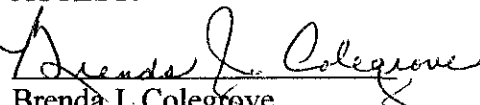
WHEREAS, both the Fire Chief and the Mayor have recommended that the City accept these
funds; and,

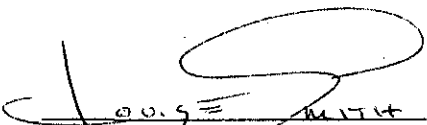
WHEREAS, City policy requires that grants funds can only be accepted with the approval of
City Council,

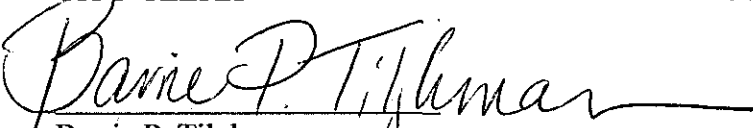
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Salisbury accepts these grant funds and
expresses its sincere appreciation to the United States Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to
Firefighters Grant Program administrators for its recognition of and contribution to the City's efforts to
further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the services provided by the Fire Department to the
citizens of the City and the Salisbury Fire District.

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the
City of Salisbury, Maryland held on April 13, 2009, and is to become effective immediately upon
adoption.

ATTEST:


Brenda J. Colegrove
CITY CLERK


Louise Smith
PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL


Barrie P. Tilghman,
MAYOR, CITY OF SALISBURY

Approved this 14th day of April, 2009


Fire Department

City of Salisbury

Departmental
MEMO

To: Mr. John R. Pick, City Administrator

Date: 17 March 2009

 **From:** David B. See, Chief of the Department

Subject: Operating Accounts – Surplus Funds

The FY09 operating accounts listed below are projected to have a surplus fund balance at the end of this fiscal year. These funds could potentially be made available to use for purchase of the power unit for the special operations hazardous materials trailer project as mentioned in my previous memo regarding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program funds. I believe that this surplus has been realized through the fact that we have carried several unanticipated vacancies for an extended period of time (while we conducted re-testing processes), and personnel have possibly changed their health insurance coverage plans.

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Expended YTD</u>	<u>Projected Surplus</u>
24035-501007/Salary Non-clerical	2,848,542	1,861,515	159,687
24035-502010 FICA	238,773	152,885	17,939
24035-502020 Health Insurance	544,943	326,227	73,725

Should you have questions or require additional information please feel free to contact me immediately.

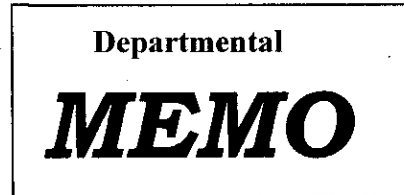
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Fire Department

City of Salisbury



To: Mr. John R. Pick, City Administrator

Date: 16 March 2009

From: David B. See, Chief of the Department

Subject: Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application

The United States Department of Homeland Security annually funds several grant assistance programs designed to assist fire rescue and emergency medical services departments across the country with the acquisition of resources that they are otherwise precluded from purchasing due to budgetary constraints. Departments nationwide compete for these grant funds with the acceptance process beginning with a peer review process. Those grants that are successful at this level are forwarded on to the state level for review and then on to the federal level for final review and confirmation. These grant programs enable the recipients to augment or add services and achieve or maintain compliance with statutory requirements (NFPA, OSHA, etc.). These programs and items that they are designed to fund are:

- Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) – tools, equipment, vehicles
- Fire Prevention and Safety (FPS) – fire and life safe prevention programs
- Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) - personnel

The Fire Department has submitted applications for these various grants programs for a number of years. Previous grant applications have been submitted in attempts to secure funds for the purchase of fire apparatus (engine and aerial), self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), individual SCBA face pieces, personal protective equipment (turnout gear), additional first responder personnel, a fire/life safety prevention and education trailer, a technical rescue trailer and related operating and personal protective equipment (PPE) and a hazardous materials response trailer and associated PPE and equipment. Unfortunately we have been unsuccessful in our endeavors to obtain funding through this program.

In 2008 the Department submitted an AFG application requesting funds in the amount of \$367,635.00 for the purchase of a forty-two (42) foot fifth wheel Hazardous Materials / Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Etiologic (HazMat/CBRNE) trailer and associated equipment. Acquisition of this trailer and equipment would enable the Department to replace some of the outdated and high maintenance equipment currently in use and to acquire additional equipment

for these types of events. It would also enable us to maintain the entire inventory of this equipment on one (1) single vehicle specifically designed for that purpose.

Subsequently I have been notified that our grant application has been identified for potential funding in the amount of \$175,000 to be used for the purchase of a thirty-five (35') foot fifth wheel special operations trailer and associated equipment as funds will permit. While this is substantially less than the original amount requested I am pleased that it seems that our efforts have quite possibly paid off. I have delayed any acceptance or approval of this offer until I have had an opportunity to further discuss this project with the City Administration and City Council. The grant stipulates that the recipient must provide a ten (10) per cent match of the funds being offered – in this case \$17,500.00.

A key requirement of this program is that the grant funds are precluded from use for purchasing motorized power units for the trailer – another key component of the project. Neither the Department nor the City has such a unit that could be dedicated full time to pull this trailer. However, we have determined that a power unit (truck tractor) meeting Department specifications can be purchased for approximately \$85,000.00. The project cost estimate provided below includes funding for a new vehicle.

AFG Funds	\$ 175,000
City Match (10%)	17,500
Power Unit	85,000
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$ 277,500

Note: We are also investigating the availability of an adequate used power unit for this project.

Another issue is the source for funds for the City's ten (10) per cent match and the funding for the motorized vehicle to pull the trailer. After conducting a thorough review of the Department's FY09 operating account remaining balances, and based on our study of FY09 projections, we believe that the Fire Department will have sufficient surplus funding in several operating accounts that could be made available to fund the City's portion of this project. Excess funds in the Department's salary, FICA, and health insurance accounts (due to personnel vacancies) could be made available for this purpose.

By accepting this grant funding, and by allocating City funds to complete this project now we will be able to delete Fire Department CIP Project # FD-10-02 Apparatus Replacement – Special Operations Hazardous Materials Unit. The CIP project is anticipated to cost approximately \$450,000 and proposed to be funded using a lease/purchase method. In actuality by moving this project forward now its total cost could be reduced by approximately \$172,500. Excluding the grant funds the City's total outlay of funding would be \$102,500.00 for this project with the remainder being funded by grant money (\$175,000.00). While we are cognizant of the current economic situation nationwide, we are also cognizant of the expectations of our citizens when they demand service from us. We continue to plan in our efforts to meet those expectations effectively and efficiently.

We believe that funding this project in this manner is both fiscally responsible and sound in that it permits the Department to acquire needed resources to meet the potential needs of the City, the fire district and surrounding region. On the other hand failure to accept the proposed grant funding might adversely impact future grant opportunities for the City and the Fire Department as well as cost the City's taxpayers more in the long term by requiring a higher investment regarding this project as presented in the Department's CIP program.

Attached to this memo you will find a proposed resolution accepting the AFG funds for consideration by the Council. Should you have any questions or require additional information please let me know.

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