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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council<br/>Communication</b><br/>Office of the City Manager</p> | <b>Date:</b>             | February 24, 2014                      |
|  | <b>Agenda Item No.</b>   | <b>40</b>                              |
|  | <b>Roll Call No.</b>     | <b><u>14-0307</u></b>                  |
|  | <b>Communication No.</b> | <b><u>14-062</u></b>                   |
|  | <b>Submitted by:</b>     | <b>John F. TeKippe,<br/>Fire Chief</b> |

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving a competitive grant application by the Fire Department to the Monsanto Fund for the purpose of funding two (2) organic compound monitors for use by the Hazardous Materials teams.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Approving a competitive grant application by the Fire Department to the Monsanto Fund for the purpose of funding two (2) MiniRAE 3000 organic compound monitors. The approximate total value for the two (2) monitors is \$8,000.00. The grant application is competitive, however, if the grant is awarded, there is no City matching fund requirement.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Des Moines Fire Department Hazardous Materials teams utilize a variety of equipment to monitor and identify flammable, toxic, and otherwise dangerous solids, liquids, and gases. Approval of this grant will provide funding to purchase two (2) MiniRAE 3000 portable monitors, one for each Haz Mat unit. These devices will increase the safety of our emergency responders by detecting organic (flammable) compounds at extremely low levels. These monitors also have a sampling pump that allows us to collect gas, which can then be identified by a sophisticated analyzer currently used by our teams.

While the Monsanto Fund provides the funding for this grant, and there are several Monsanto Company work sites within the seven (7) county region that the Des Moines Fire Department provides hazardous material service to, these monitors would be used in a variety of commercial, industrial, and business environments when the uncontrolled presence of organic compounds is possible.

The grant application is due on or before February 28, 2014. The decision period for grant awards is anticipated to be in May 2014.

Since 1964, the Monsanto Fund has been the Monsanto Company's philanthropic arm to focus on their goal of strengthening both farming communities and communities where people live and work. These efforts focus on two (2) areas; providing basic education support and meeting critical needs in communities. The critical needs focus includes supporting public safety and various other local needs.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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