



## City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

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**Title:** Approve the purchase of new handheld radios for fire department.

**Recommendation:** That Council 1) approve the purchase of thirty-two (32) BK 5000 portable radios and related equipment; and 2) approve the Fire Chief to enter into an agreement, upon legal review, for the purchase; and, 3) allow change orders not to exceed 5% of the total cost.

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**Prepared by:** Mark Buttron- Fire Chief

**Council Meeting Date:** 4/26/2022

**Date Prepared:** 4/19/2022

**Agenda:** Consent

**Background Information:** With the support of the Measure E Committee, the Fire Department seeks to purchase and simplify its portable handheld radios to a single platform for safety and consistency in the department.

In 2017 the Fire Department began replacement of outdated radios subject to malfunction in a wet, dusty, fire environment causing communication issues on incidents. The Motorola APX 6000 (APX) was the answer to the needs of the fire service, a reliable communication platform resulting in improved safety for firefighters that is waterproof, drop, smoke/dust resistant. The initial purchase of radios was funded by the General Fund and proceeds of the Evert Champion Estate. The APX radios have been a reliable platform over the past five years, unfortunately the popular radios are difficult to obtain in a timely manner, increasing expensive to maintain and increased radio programming demands from the Fire Service have rendered the radios operationally difficult to manage.

In the last year Bendix King has developed a radio closely matching primary advantages of the APX radio. Benefits include significantly reduces cost, local purchase and repair, compatibility of programming with Cal Fire annual communication update, Grass Valley owned firmware/software for programming and locally available part/service. Furthermore, this purchase will further improve our

deployment abilities as it will allow us to achieve our goal of establishing one communication solution for portable radios increasing firefighter safety.

The 32 new radios and accessories will cost is \$57,056.45. plus sales tax (8.5%) \$4832.80.00, for a total purchase price of \$61,889.25 from the lowest bidder Banner Communications. Funding for the purchase will be programmed into the Fiscal Year 21-22 Measure E Fund along year end budget. Ordering now will place the City in line for production with goal of complete change over prior to height of fire season.

**Council Goals/Objectives:** Exceptional Public Safety consistent with the City of Grass Valley Strategic Plan

**Fiscal Impact:** Funding for the purchase will be programmed into the Fiscal Year 21.22 Measure E Fund.

**Funds Available:** Yes

**Account #:** Measure E Fund

**Reviewed by:**

**Attachments:**