

New Item #1
6-12-10

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 12, 2010

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF DESIGNATION OF CITY MANAGER AS THE CITY'S AGENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR THE FEBRUARY 2010 SNOW STORMS

ISSUE: Application for reimbursement to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the February 2010 snow storms.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Designate James K. Hartmann, City Manager, as the designated agent on behalf of the City for the purpose of filing application with federal agencies;
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to sign the FEMA Application for Federal Assistance for the February 2010 snow storms; and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

BACKGROUND: The City experienced a record amount of snow from February 5, 2010, through February 10, 2010. On April 27, 2010, President Obama declared a major disaster for two back-to-back severe winter storms. The City incurred significant costs to provide emergency protective measures including snow clearance, as well as other costs associated with these storms. City staff has been working with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and FEMA to develop and prepare project worksheets for the eligible costs associated with the City's response to the storms.

FISCAL IMPACT: The City is expected to receive reimbursement for 88 percent of the total eligible expenses, of which FEMA covers 75 percent and VDEM covers 13 percent. Since the City already spent the money during the snowstorms, in the most recent Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance that was passed on Saturday, June 12, City Council appropriated the anticipated revenue from FEMA of \$5,325,000 for the February snow storms. This represents 75 percent of the total February 2010 snow storms cost of \$7,100,000. The VDEM reimbursement is expected to be approximately \$923,000. This revenue will be appropriated in the Fall

Reappropriations Ordinance for FY 2011. The remaining General Fund costs have been identified from debt service savings in a Non-Departmental account in FY 2010.

STAFF:

Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief

Mark Penn, Emergency Management Coordinator

Laura Triggs, Finance Director

Bruce Johnson, Director, OMB

Kendel Taylor, Financial Management Coordinator, OMB