

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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**TO:** Members of the Finance Committee

**FROM:** Chad Doran

**DATE:** 07/20/2018

**SUBJECT:** Action: Acceptance of \$15,000 grant from Octoberfest for Public Safety UAV

## Committee members,

We recently applied for and received a \$15,000 grant from Octoberfest for the purchase of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) that we plan to use primarily for public safety purposes. We currently have a team of seven FAA certified drone pilots and two drones. However, neither of the two drones we currently own have the capability to fly in adverse weather conditions. They also lack the ability to carry an infrared camera that is a valuable public safety tool.

The UAV we are looking at purchasing is able to fly in any weather conditions and does have the ability to carry an infrared camera. It can also be used by our other pilots for city projects, but this UAV will be housed at APD and ready at all times for any sort of emergency. The total cost of this project is roughly \$27,000. Thanks to the generosity of the Octoberfest committee, we are more than halfway to making this a reality. We are still seeking other grant opportunities to cover the additional cost as well.

The UAV will be able to be deployed in search and rescue operations, standoff situations, fires, natural disasters and other types of citywide emergencies. We will be the only community in the Fox Cities with the capability to fly a drone in any weather conditions with this tool, which we believe can also be flown through mutual aid agreements to assist other communities in an emergency as well.

In addition, the drone will also be used for monitoring crowds at large-scale events, like Mile of Music, parades, Octoberfest and other events deemed necessary.

Please contact me at 832-5814 or chad.doran@appleton.org with any questions.