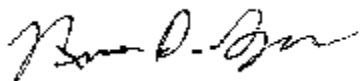


City of Calistoga

Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Steve Campbell, Fire Chief
DATE: June 19, 2012
SUBJECT: Agreement to Provide Emergency and Fire Service Response Services to Napa County

APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING:



Richard Spitler, City Manager

1 **ISSUE:** To discuss and provide direction on an agreement with Napa County by which the city
2 of Calistoga provides emergency and fire response services to certain unincorporated areas
3 near Calistoga.
4

5 **RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the City Manager to execute a one-year agreement with Napa
6 County to provide provides emergency fire response services to certain unincorporated areas
7 near Calistoga.
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9 **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** The City has, for many years, provided first response
10 emergency and fire services to the unincorporated areas outside the City limits. The City and
11 Napa County have enjoyed a positive working relationship and have provided very reliable and
12 much needed service to each other over these years.
13

14 Napa County contracts with Cal Fire (formally the California Department of Forestry) to provide
15 emergency response services to the County unincorporated area. The County has contracted
16 with the City to provide first response emergency services within a defined unincorporated area,
17 generally to the north, east, south and west of the City. The City also, in the same agreement,
18 contracts with Cal Fire, through the County, to provide fire dispatch and some fire apparatus
19 maintenance to the City.
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21 The current agreement was entered into July 1, 2011 and expires on June 30, 2012.
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23 Under the current contract, the City provides Emergency Response to the contract area, which
24 includes:

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1. One staffed Engine with two personnel Monday through Sunday, on a 24-hour basis.
2. Provide additional apparatus and equipment as necessary staffed by off-duty and/or paid-call firefighters on a 24-hour basis, available for response into the contract zone, from Calistoga's Fire Station.
3. Respond to all reported incidents within the contract zone, with appropriate equipment, as available, to mitigate the emergencies.
4. Respond to mutual aid requests with appropriate equipment, as available.

The County provides Dispatch Services for fire department resources, to Calistoga, including:

1. Proper operation of the 911 emergency notification telephone systems for all received emergency calls within Calistoga's city limits as well as the area within the contract zone;
2. Maintenance of accurate and real-time resource status to expedite proper resource utilization;
3. Maintenance of emergency response records;
4. Maintenance of the viable County controlled radio communication systems.

The County provides vehicle maintenance services for one Type III Calistoga engine as follows:

1. Record all work performed. This record captures all work hours and parts used. A copy of these records is provided to Calistoga.
2. Perform routine preventative maintenance, including mandated annual DOT Safety Compliance Inspection Services and Annual Maintenance Inspection Service, the same as required on County Equipment.
3. Provide emergency or major repairs as needed to return the Type III engine back to service.

The County provides Calistoga with emergency response/station coverage as follows:

1. Provide one Type I engine staffed with two personnel, 24/7 at the Cal Fire Station located on Hwy. 29 at Big Tree Road and respond to the following types of incidents within the city limits of Calistoga:
 - Reported structure fires.
 - Reported vegetation fires.

- 71 2. Provide station coverage as requested.
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- 73 3. Provide Chief Officer Coverage when requested.
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- 75 4. Respond to all reported incidents within the contract zone, with minimum of one
- 76 apparatus staffed with two personnel, if available
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- 78 5. Respond to mutual aid request with appropriate equipment, as available.
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80 The agreement has provided more efficient fire and emergency services to the Calistoga area at
81 an overall reduced cost to the public.

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83 The County has expressed interest in amending the current contract with Calistoga to continue
84 providing fire and emergency services to the contract zone area until June 30, 2013. Staff has
85 entered into contract talks over a year ago with representatives from Cal Fire, however due to
86 change in personal with Cal Fire, it has been very difficult for them to focus their attention and
87 much needed time on this issue.

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89 The attached proposal would be a continuation of the same services provided by the city of
90 Calistoga Fire department. However there are three significant changes:

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- 92 1. An area of coverage north of Robert Louis Stevenson State Park parking lot would be
93 removed from coverage (see Section C of Coverage Map). This is acceptable to staff as we
94 usually don't cover this area, as it is easier for Lake County to cover it.

95

- 96 2. An area south of Calistoga (Section B) south of the city limits down to Bale Lane would be
97 limited to fire protection services and not include emergency medical calls. While we feel we
98 provide a fast response time to medical emergencies, the County believes that Cal Fire can also
99 provide this service without compromising the level of service. This would reduce the number of
100 calls from the Calistoga Fire Department in this area.

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- 102 3. The contract proposes a cost for call basis for determining reimbursement to the City. We
103 calculate that it costs \$822 per call to respond to an incident in the county. We average about
104 265 calls per year. The proposed contract guarantees payment for a minimum of 200 calls per
105 year and a maximum of 350 calls per year. Any calls above this number would be at the City's
106 cost. Based upon past trends it is very doubtful that the call volume would exceed 350. As
107 indicated below, in the fiscal impact section, this new arrangement is advantageous to the City
108 and is closer to what the true value of the service the City provides.

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110 Overall, the proposed contract continues to utilize the strengths of both the Napa
111 County/CalFire and Calistoga Fire Departments to provide seamless fire protection services for
112 both the City and the unincorporated areas surrounding Calistoga, and providing these services
113 at the best value for our citizens that we serve. It is likely that the County this fall will be
114 evaluating the overall fire service in the county. This might affect the City's future service
115 function to the County, but it is too early to determine in what manner.

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118 The City has two options to consider:
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- 120 1. Fulfill our current contract with no amendment to the terms. (Service would cease June
121 30, 2012).
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123 2. Accept the proposed Napa County agreement that would extend the service to June
124 30, 2013.
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126 Staff recommends the City Council direct the City Manager to execute a one-year contract with
127 Napa County and start immediately with new contract negotiations with Cal Fire and Napa
128 County for a longer-term agreement
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130 **FISCAL IMPACT:** The existing contract with the County has the City compensated in the
131 amount of \$90,901 with free dispatch service. Under the proposed contract the County will
132 compensate Calistoga for a minimum of 200 incidents per year and a maximum of 350. Each
133 call shall be compensated at the rate of \$822. If the minimum call volume is applied, it will bring
134 a gross income amount of \$164,400.00 to the City. If a credit of \$26,478 for dispatch services
135 and \$3,500 for fleet maintenance is subtracted, the minimum net payment to Calistoga will be
136 \$134,422, as follows.
137

138 \$164,400.00
139 - 26,478.00
140 - 3,500.00
141 \$134,422.00
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143 The \$134,422.00 is a net increase of \$43,521 over the previous agreement.
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145 **ATTACHMENT:**
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- 147 1. Changes in Zone Map
148 2. Draft Resolution
149 3. Proposed Agreement with Zone Map between the County of Napa and the City of
150 Calistoga.
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