Memorandum 14-035 Fire Department Laptop Computer Replacements

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Memorandum Status: Backup

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To: Walt Wrede, City Manager

From: Nick Poolos, IT Manager

Through: Bob Painter, Fire Chief

Date: February 18, 2014

Subject: Homer Volunteer Fire Department Panasonic Toughbook Replacement

The Homer Volunteer Fire Department uses a computerized information management system, Image Trend Rescue Bridge, for data collection, analysis, and reporting. Integral to this system are three rugged laptops that allow for data entry in the field. The currently used laptops are running Windows XP and have started to suffer hardware failures.

On April 7th 2014, Microsoft will stop supporting Windows XP. This means Microsoft will no longer release security patches and fixes for the Windows XP operating system. These laptops need to be running Windows 7 to receive security patches and updates. The current laptops are resource constrained and will not run Windows 7 well. These laptops are used to process HIPPA protected data and the City is required by law to secure this data.

City of Homer IT has identified a replacement configuration from the Panasonic Fully Rugged Toughbook line, CF-31XFLAXLM. This model is available at reduced cost through the State of Alaska WSCA contract. Additionally IT has included an extended service plan that covers hardware failures and damage for 3 years, including damage that may occur in the field.

Recommendation:

City Council pass an ordinance allocating $11,331.48 from the Homer Volunteer Fire Department Reserve Account for this replacement.

Fiscal Note: Account 156-393 Homer Volunteer Fire Department Depreciation Reserves.

Related Ordinances**Memorandum - Related Ordinances:** Ordinance 14-11(A)(S) Appropriate Funds for the Replacement of Laptop Computers Compatible With Windows 7 for the Fire Department

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