

1 **CITY OF HOMER**  
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 City Manager

4 **ORDINANCE 23-55**

5  
6 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA  
7 ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING AN FY 2023 STATE HOMELAND  
8 SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88,196.56  
9 FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY &  
10 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (DHS&EM) TO UPGRADE HOMER  
11 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PORTABLE RADIOS AND PROVIDE  
12 A BACKUP REPEATER FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC SAFETY  
13 COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, AUTHORIZING A SOLE SOURCE  
14 REQUEST TO CONTRACT WITH PROCOMM ALASKA AND  
15 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE  
16 THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS.

17  
18 WHEREAS, The City's radio communication system supports the City of Homer's ability  
19 to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from all hazard events; and  
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21 WHEREAS, Components of the system require upgrades to keep up with technological  
22 advances and maintain interoperability; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, The City is pleased to have been awarded \$88,196.56 from the Division of  
25 Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DSH&EM) to procure and install a backup  
26 repeater and procure twelve portable radios for Homer Volunteer Fire Department that integrate with  
27 the Department's Bluetooth-enabled Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus; and  
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29 WHEREAS, Motorola equipment is the only equipment that will interface properly with  
30 the City's existing communications system and allow system functionality to remain the same;  
31 and  
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33 WHEREAS, The radio equipment must meet P25 Standards and ProComm Alaska is  
34 Motorola's only certified APCO P25 Systems Specialist in the State of Alaska; and  
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36 WHEREAS, ProComm Alaska is the only firm in the state of Alaska authorized as a full  
37 service manufacturer's representative for Motorola equipment, and has serviced City of Homer  
38 communications equipment for over thirty years, a sole source contract with ProComm is  
39 justified.  
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41 NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:  
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43            Section 1. The Homer City Council hereby amends the FY24 Capital Budget by accepting  
44 a FY2023 State Homeland Security Program Grant of \$88,196.56 from the Alaska Division of  
45 Homeland Security and Emergency Management as follows:

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<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
151-XXXX	FY2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program	\$88,196.56

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50            Section 2. The Homer City Council hereby amends the FY24 Capital Budget by  
51 appropriating a FY2023 State Homeland Security Program Grant of \$88,196.56 from the Alaska  
52 Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management as follows:

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<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
151-XXXX	Homer Police Dept. Backup Repeater	\$19,624.00
151-XXXX	Homer Volunteer Fire Dept. Mobile Radios	<u>\$68,572.56</u>
	Total:	\$88,196.56

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59            Section 3. That the City Manager is authorized to request approval from DHS&EM and  
60 upon approval enter into a sole source contract with ProComm Alaska to purchase, program  
61 and install the radio equipment.

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63            Section 4. This is a budget amendment ordinance, is temporary in nature, and shall  
64 not be codified.

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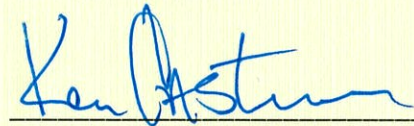
66            ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

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69            CITY OF HOMER

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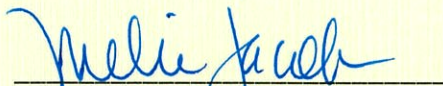
72

73            KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

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75            ATTEST:

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79            MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

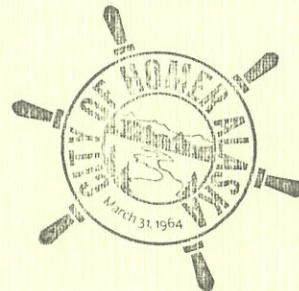
80

81            YES: 6

82            NO: 0

83            ABSTAIN: 0

84            ABSENT: 0



- 85
- 86 Introduction: November 13, 2023
- 87 Public Hearing: November 27, 2023
- 88 Second Reading: November 27, 2023
- 89 Effective Date: November 28, 2023



# MEMORANDUM

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**Ordinance 23-55, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Accepting and Appropriating an FY 2023 State Homeland Security Program Grant in the Amount of \$88,196.56 from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) to Upgrade Homer Volunteer Fire Department Portable Radios and Provide a Backup Repeater for the City's Public Safety Communications System, Authorizing a Sole Source Request to Contract with PROCOMM Alaska and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager.**

**Item Type:** Backup Memorandum  
**Prepared For:** Mayor and City Council  
**Date:** October 20, 2023  
**From:** Chief Robl  
**Through:** Rob Dumouchel

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I am pleased to report that the City has been awarded a FY2023 Homeland Security grant in the amount of \$88,196.56 for upgrading public safety communications within the City.

The grant will accomplish two important upgrades. It funds the purchase and installation of a backup repeater for Homer's public safety radio system. When one repeater goes down we, we lose that radio resource as it is sent back to the factory for repair. The best case scenario is a 6 to 8-week outage, if they have the parts in stock. With the on-going supply chain troubles, though, it is likely it will be down for several months. This can have serious consequences during a major incident response.

The grant also provides funds to purchase twelve Homer Volunteer Fire Department portable radios with Bluetooth technology that can integrate with the Department's new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). In 2020, the City replaced HVFD's non-NFPA-compliant SCBA. The new models allow responders' radios to connect via noise-cancelling Bluetooth technology in the SCBA headpieces for hands free communications. Noise cancelling greatly improves communications by reducing the ambient noise typical radio microphones pick up during voice transmissions in loud environments. Hands-free communication is extremely beneficial during rescue operations when hands are needed for other tasks and could possibly save a firefighter's life if they become injured or trapped in a fire and cannot use their hands.

Staff also requests to complete this project with a sole source contract to ProComm Alaska for the following reasons:

ProComm Alaska (PCA) has been servicing our radio system for 30 years. Their service has been superb and delivered in an extremely professional manner. They are intimately familiar with our system and the unique radio frequency anomalies in our area.

PCA is the only firm in the State of Alaska that is a certified APCO P25 Systems Specialist and authorized to function as a full service manufacturer's representative for Motorola. Their public safety communications technicians are certified with Motorola factory training.

**Recommendation:** Accept and appropriate the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$88,196.56 and approve a sole source purchase request to ProComm Alaska for the associated equipment.