SUBJECT:

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS - FIRE

RESCUE VEHICLE

SOURCE:

FIRE DEPARTMENT

COMMENT:

The Fire Department currently operates a 2003 heavy rescue vehicle built on a Ford F550 cab and chassis. The vehicle is scheduled for replacement during the 2013/14 fiscal year and approximately \$75,000 is available in the replacement fund. In May of 2013 the Fire Department applied for an Indian Gaming grant in the amount of \$50,000 to augment existing vehicle replacement funds. The Tule River Tribal Council voted in support of this project and funding was awarded by the Tulare County Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee. The total combined funding available for vehicle replacement is approximately \$125,000. Fire Department staff have prepared specifications for the replacement vehicle and are ready to advertise for bids. The projected build/delivery time is nine to twelve months.

The department's heavy rescue vehicle is unique within Tulare County for the array of specialized equipment carried and its capacity to lift and stabilize large commercial vehicles, including mass transit buses. The Indian Gaming grant, combined with established replacement funds, will enable the department to strengthen its already substantial heavy rescue capabilities and the delivery of that service throughout the South County region.

RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council authorize staff to advertise for bids on a fire rescue vehicle and associated equipment.

Dir

Approp./ Funded MB

CM_____

Item No. 3