

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET
VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
May 27, 2020

Agenda Item:

Community Rating System (CRS) / Flood Insurance Assistance Proposal

Description:

The CRS is a FEMA program, described as, “a voluntary, incentive-based community program that recognizes, encourages, and rewards local floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum standards of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).” The CRS program scores communities on their floodplain management, which determines the level of discount provided to homeowners on their flood insurance premiums. The minimum score is a 10 and the maximum score is a 1. Each successive improvement from the base score of 10 results in an additional 5% discount to residents on their flood insurance premiums.

Currently, the Village has a score of 6, which provides a 20% discount to residents on their flood insurance premiums. For context, the Lee County Unincorporated area has a score of 5 and the City of Bonita Springs has a score of 6. The Village has achieved this score faster than anticipated, due to Council’s commitment and the work of Village, CGA, and Jr Evans Engineering staff. However, we do not have the capacity to maintain or improve the current score without additional assistance. **We are recommending that a part-time employee be hired via contract to maintain our current score of 6.**

The available options are included below.

- 1) Continue the current arrangement with JR Evans, at a cost of approximately \$30,000 per year. Under this arrangement, the consultant will continue to provide assistance off-site and Village and CGA staff will continue to provide onsite work. It is expected that this arrangement will lead to a reduction in the Village’s CRS score to a 7 this year, due to a lack of staff and consultant capacity.
- 2) Hire an employee, at a full or part-time level. A part-time employee would provide us with a strong likelihood of maintaining our current score. A full-time employee would provide us with a good opportunity to improve our score to a 5.
- 3) Hire an employee via contract, at a full or part-time level. A part-time contracted employee would provide us with a strong likelihood of maintaining our current score. A full-time contracted employee would provide us with a good opportunity to improve our score to a 5.

Action Requested:

Authorize the Village Manager to sign the attached agreement with JR Evans Engineering.

Financial Impact:

Though there are several options the Village may choose to select, the recommend option would cost the Village up to \$150,000, annually. We estimate that the FY 2019-2020 budget impact will be approximately \$40,000, funded from the Village's general operating contingency.

Attachments:

1. Proposed contract with JR Evans Engineering
2. Staff memorandum