

City Council Introduction:

BILL NUMBER: 17R-270

Public Hearing:

Date Factsheet Prepared: Micheal Despain, Fire Chief

FACTSHEET

Instructions: If a question does not apply, just put "NA". Please try to keep it to **ONE** page only. Submit **one original**, with your Request Form, to City Clerk.

TITLE: Arson K9 Mutual Aid agreement

BOARD/COMMITTEE: N/A

APPLICANT: Lincoln Fire & Rescue

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED: Building & Safety/Fire Prevention Bureau

SPONSOR: Micheal Despain, Fire Chief

OPPONENTS: N/A

REASON FOR LEGISLATION

LF&R does not have an Arson K9 in its inventory. The use of Arson K9's is well documented as a valuable tool in recognizing (or excluding) cases of arson quickly and accurately. Omaha Fire is offering to share the use of their Arson K9 if we have an agreement in place. The proposed agreement is for four years, which is why it is being presented as a council item.

DISCUSSION / FINDINGS OF FACT:

The City of Lincoln must investigate all fires that occur within the city limits. The purpose is to determine the fire's cause in the hope that measures can be implemented to mitigate the frequency and severity of future fires. Some of the fires investigated are intentionally caused by persons hoping to exact vengeance, cover a crime, or commit insurance fraud. The use of an accelerate detection dog (Arson K9) allow investigators to more rapidly and accurately determine the presence and location of potential accelerants used in the commission of an arson. Lincoln Fire & Rescue does not have access to an Arson K9 internally but the Omaha Fire Department does and is open to allowing the use of their Arson K9 as long as they can recover their operational costs when sending the dog and handler to Lincoln. The cost of reimbursement is expected to be covered by the salary savings in closing out investigations faster and more efficiently.

POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE: ___ Yes No

OPERATIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Access to the K9 will speed up the time commitments at fire scenes for investigators and fire crews.

COST OF TOTAL PROJECT: Estimated to be less than \$1,000 per year

RELATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS: \$0

SOURCE OF FUNDS: General Fund

CITY: 100%

NON CITY:

FACTSHEET PREPARED BY: Micheal Despain, Fire Chief

DATE: October 24, 2017

REVIEWED BY:

DATE: