AGENDA MEMORANDUM
First Reading for the City Council Meeting of February 24, 2026
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of March 17, 2026

DATE: February 24, 2026

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Brandon Wade, Fire Chief
brandonw@corpuschristitx.gov
(361) 826-3900

Sergio Villasana, Director of Finance & Procurement Department
sergiov2@corpuschristitx.gov
(361) 826-3227

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of two grant awards for a total amount of $5,000.00 from the ONEOK Emergency Responder Grant Program for the purchase of personal protective gear, emergency response tools, and critical communication systems for the Corpus Christi Fire Department and the Local Emergency Planning Committee; and appropriating $5,000.00 into the Fire Grants Fund

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of two grant awards for a total amount of $5,000.00 from the ONEOK Emergency Responder Grant Program for funding toward the purchase of three new HAZMAT training suits, two new drone dropper systems, six new drone landing pads, two additional drone batteries for the Corpus Christi Fire Department and 131 additional emergency weather radios for the Local Emergency Planning Committee; and appropriating $5,000.00 into the Fire Grants Fund.

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance authorizes the Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) to accept two grant awards from the ONEOK Emergency Responder Grant Program. The total funding amount is $5,000.00, consisting of one award for $2,500.00 and the other for $2,500.00. The purpose of the grant program is to support fire departments, emergency medical services, and law enforcement agencies with funding for personal protective gear, emergency response tools, and critical communication systems.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

ONEOK is a Fortune 500 company that is headquartered in Tulsa, Oklahoma and is a leading energy infrastructure company that operates an extensive network of pipelines and infrastructure across the United States, including assets along the Gulf Coast. ONEOK owns

and operates terminal and pipeline infrastructure in Corpus Christi located along the Corpus Christi ship channel. ONEOK's local operations support the transportation and storage of refined petroleum products and crude oil, contributing to the region's energy logistics and emergency response needs.

ONEOK offers grants to support Emergency Responders in the communities where it operates. Through its Emergency Responder Grant Program, ONEOK provides strategic funding to fire departments, emergency medical services, and law enforcement agencies to strengthen their frontline capabilities. Eligible purchases include personal protective gear, emergency response tools, and communication systems critical to safeguarding public safety.

The grant award provides funding for the following projects: 1) CCFD Hazmat Protective and Drone Team Equipment; 2) Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Emergency Weather Radio Equipment, which will provide equipment to increase large scale response capabilities.

The CCFD Hazmat protective equipment will consist of three new Kappler DuraChem 500 Training suits that will allow firefighters to conduct in-suit Hazmat training that cannot currently be conducted without damaging CCFD's more expensive non-training Hazmat suits. CCFD does not currently have any Hazmat training suits, so the three new Kappler DuraChem 500 Training Suits will allow CCFD to begin building its Hazmat training suit inventory.

The CCFD Drone Team equipment will consist of two new drone dropper systems, six new Hoodman Weighted Tri-Fold Drone Landing Pads, and two additional drone batteries. The drone dropper systems enable a drone to transport a payload to a designated location and release it. For example, a drone could deliver a life jacket to a swimmer in distress and drop it within reach once it arrives at their location. The Hoodman landing pad is a large orange pad that is used for the drone to take off and land. The pad keeps drones from kicking up rocks, dirt, and sand from the drone's propeller wash, preventing damage to the drone. The two additional batteries will be used to power CCFD's current drone. CCFD currently has six batteries, however, CCFD's drone requires two batteries at a time to operate. The two additional batteries will give CCFD a total of four sets of batteries. This will allow CCFD to maintain enough charged batteries to help ensure continuous flights at emergency scenes.

The emergency weather radio equipment for the LEPC will consist of 131 additional Midland WR-120 NOAA Weather Radios that will be distributed to various public facilities across the Coastal Bend. The Midland WR-120 NOAA Weather Radios will deliver continuous access to official updates from the National Weather Service, making them invaluable tools during emergencies, especially if conventional communications fail due to power outages or natural disasters.

Listed in the table below are the two projects and the funding amounts for each of the grant awards that CCFD has received.

Project Title	Amount Awarded
CCFD Hazmat/Drone Equipment	$ 2,500.00
LEPC Emergency Weather Radio Equipment	$ 2,500.00
TOTAL AWARDED	**$ 5,000.00**

This is the first year that the City has applied for and received funding from the ONEOK Emergency Responder Grant Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to accept grant funding and find other funding sources from the General Fund for the purchase of HAZMAT equipment, Drone Equipment for CCFD, and critical Weather Radios for the LEPC. However, these funds were not budgeted as part of the FY 2026 General Fund Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is fiscal impact to the general fund. Funding in the amount of $5,000.00 will be appropriated into the FY 2026 Fire Grants Fund. No City cash match is required.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1062 Fire Grants Fund
Organization/Activity:	89 Grants & Capital Project Funds/ TBD
Department:	10 Fire Department
Account:	Various
Amount:	$5,000.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends authorizing the acceptance of two grant awards for a total amount of $5,000.00 from the ONEOK Emergency Responder Grant Program for funding toward the purchase of three new HAZMAT training suits, two new drone dropper systems, six new drone landing pads, two additional drone batteries for the Corpus Christi Fire Department and 131 additional emergency weather radios for the Local Emergency Planning Committee; and appropriating $5,000.00 into the Fire Grants Fund.as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
Certificate of Funds
Presentation