



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Council Session

Item G-15

#2022-229 - Approving Police Fleet Up-Fit Sole Source

Staff Contact: Robert Falldorf, Police Chief

Council Agenda Memo

From: Robert Falldorf, Police Chief
Meeting: August 23, 2022
Subject: Police Fleet Up-fit Sole Source
Presenter(s): Robert Falldorf, Police Chief

Background

The Police Department has budget authority under Capital expenditures for the up-fitting of seven (7) police patrol vehicles.

Discussion

The Police Department has budget authority under Capital Outlay for the up-fitting of seven (7) 2022 Police fleet vehicles. The Department up-fits new patrol vehicles as they are rotated out of the fleet. Request for Proposals are difficult to create specifications for, as each up-fit is different depending on which equipment is usable from the vehicle taken out of service, which equipment is compatible with new model year fleet vehicles, and which equipment has reached its logical end of service.

Additionally, the need for local and timely support and repair is essential for maintaining a fleet of emergency response vehicles. Three (3) competitive prices were sought based on a full up-fit with new equipment for comparison. However none of the comparison quotes offered a true direct comparison.

The first quote from 911 Customs revealed that 911 Customs uses equipment not compatible with pre-existing emergency equipment. (light bar, siren, control switch, and prisoner transport system). This creates inter-changeability, deployment, and training issues. It also mandates that different fleet vehicles would have to be maintained by different vendors based on product licensing issues with no options for local service. The closest sales and service for this quote was located in Council Bluffs, IA which adds considerable cost and conditions to this bid.

The second quote from Jones Automotive in Lincoln, Nebraska is competitive quote with equal equipment and services offered. However, Jones required equipment to be purchased through them at retail cost, as opposed to drop shipping less expensive state bid items at a reduced cost.

The third and preferred quote from Platte Valley Communications of Grand Island offers both local service and maintenance, and the ability to reduce product cost by using state bid equipment purchased from separate vendors. Labor price for set-up through Platte Valley was estimated at \$95.00 per hour vs. \$110 per hour for Jones Automotive. Although Platte Valley estimates more labor hours, we believe this estimate is accurate based on experience with our previous fleet vehicles. Additionally, the offsetting cost savings of state bid equipment makes up for any reduced estimates in labor charges from Jones. 911 Customs did not estimate an hourly rate in their quote. Estimated up-fit costs for Platte Valley per unit are \$9,032.20.

As stated above, this does not directly compare in product or product and labor with either of the other quotes, however the Department feels this is the most accurate representation with the best combination of cost efficiency and local service availability.

As each quote does not represent the actual cost of a unit up-fit, and cost can vary greatly as existing equipment is repurposed, each vehicle up-fit is normally billed and paid for each fleet vehicle individually.

For this reason, the department is seeking to have Platte Valley Communications declared the sole source provider for Police Vehicle equipment and up-fitting for fiscal year 2021-2022 through fiscal year 2022-2023.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve to declare Platte Valley Communications the sole source provider for the equipment and up-fit of Police Department patrol fleet vehicles.

Sample Motion

Move to declare Platte Valley Communications as the sole source provider for Police Department patrol fleet equipment and up-fitting.

RESOLUTION 2022-229

WHEREAS, the City has approved budget authority for the equipment and up-fit of seven (7) Police Department fleet vehicles; and

WHEREAS, competitive pricing was sought, and Platte Valley Communications of Grand Island was the only provider who provided compatible equipment install at state bid prices with local services, and therefore was most responsive to department needs and long-term costs; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department wishes to have Platte Valley Communications declared the sole source provider for patrol fleet vehicle equipment and up-fitting for fiscal year 2021-2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, to approve the declaration of Platte Valley Communications of Grand Island the sole source provider for equipment and up-fit of Police Department patrol fleet equipment and up-fit for fiscal year 2021-2022 through fiscal year 2022-2023.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, August, 23, 2022.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☒ _____
August 19, 2022	☒ City Attorney