



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

Council Session

Item G-10

#2013-193 - Approving Purchasing/Buying Group for all City Departments

Staff Contact: Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief

Council Agenda Memo

From: Cory Schmidt, Fire Chief
Meeting: June 25, 2013
Subject: Purchasing/Buying Group
Item #'s: G-10
Presenter(s): Cory Schmidt and Tim Hiemer

Background

Grand Island City Council recently amended the City's purchasing/procurement policy to allow the use of buying groups. The Grand Island Fire Department would like to utilize the Houston-Galveston Area Council buying group to facilitate an upcoming purchase of a fire pumper.

Discussion

The Grand Island Fire Department is in the process of purchasing a fire pumper to replace one of the existing front line pumpers. This purchase was authorized in the current 2012-13 budget. Part of the purchasing process requires vehicle specifications to be written, quality control visits to be made to the plant, and other requirements. The process as a whole is very time consuming and can be expensive. The Grand Island Fire Department requests the City of Grand Island join the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) buying group to facilitate upcoming purchasing. H-GAC is a government to government procurement service available nationwide. The buying group is free to join and there is no obligation to buy. The buying group is used by government and non-profit corporations to make purchases of specialty equipment. The H-GAC utilizes the same process as state bidding to ensure the lowest price to the end user. <http://www.hgacbuy.org/>

By joining the H-GAC, the Grand Island Fire Department and other city departments will be able to utilize this buying group for future purchases.

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 the use of the H-GAC as an authorized buying group.

Sample Motion

Move to allow the H-GAC to be added to the list of approved buying groups or vendors for future purchases.

RESOLUTION 2013-193

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island amended the city purchasing policy to allow the use of buying groups on May 28, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the H-GAC is a type of buying group used by government agencies; and

WHEREAS, joining the H-GAC is free of charge and offers increased buying power to the City of Grand Island; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Island Fire Department and all other city departments would have the option of utilizing this buying group for upcoming purchases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the City be authorized to join the Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) and authorizes the Mayor to sign the contract for entry.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, June 25, 2013.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
June 24, 2013	☐ City Attorney