THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: July 27, 2021

Subject: Sole Source Procurement of Mach Alert

Staff Resource(s): Department Director, Jonathan Feldman and Senior IT Project Manager, Jeff Reble

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing a sole source justification for the purchase of equipment and materials from MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. for Mach Alert Servers and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a service contract, with the same, for the operation and maintenance of the system and equipment.

Background:

- Asheville Fire Rescue operates a fire station alerting system for emergency dispatching which is provided by Mach-Alert.
- These systems are integrated with the City's Motorola radio system and deployed at all area fire stations.
- Mach Alert is the fire station alerting system that is used in every Asheville fire station to notify firefighters to respond to incidents.
- The system is integrated within the city's radio system and dispatch center to create a single comprehensive notification system.
- The Asheville Fire Department has been using the Mach-Alert fire station alerting system since 2016.
- Changing vendors for the fire station alerting system at Fire Station #4 would require replacement of the current systems located within each of the fire stations and include replacement of the network infrastructure at the dispatch center.
- A stand alone system would be incompatible with the rest of the alerting system and the comprehensive notification across the City would not be possible. Security updates, upgrades, or expansions of these systems require specific equipment or systems to be procured with sole source methods.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Sole source procurement allows for products to be purchased exclusively from one vendor to ensure the expansion of an existing system using proprietary components.
- In using sole source procurement, there is no further outreach conducted because the items are purchased from a specific vendor.

Council Goal(s):

- A financially resilient city

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Provides systems that will continue standardization or compatibility with existing City systems.
- This will result in cost savings through reduced operations and maintenance.

Con(s):

- Sole source procurements may reduce competitive pricing.

Fiscal Impact:

- The total amount of the purchase for equipment and services is $88,858 which is included in the FY22 budget.
- The alternative would be to replace the system with a new system which would be significantly more expensive.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the sole source justification for the purchase of equipment and materials from MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. for Mach Alert Servers and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a service contract, with the same, for operation and maintenance of the system and equipment.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR MACH ALERT SERVERS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO SERVICE CONTRACT, WITH THE SAME, FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM AND EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 143-129 sets forth the requirements for the letting of public contracts including purchases of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 143-123(e) sets forth exceptions to the requirements of the subject general statute when a needed product is available from a sole source of supply; and

WHEREAS, the City has contracted with MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. since 2016 for Mach Alert Servers currently being utilized by the emergency dispatch system for Asheville Fire Rescue; and

WHEREAS, in order to keep standardization or compatibility of existing emergency dispatching system in use by Asheville Fire and Rescue the purchase of equipment from Motorola for Mach Alert Servers is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

A sole source justification for the purchase of equipment and materials from Motorola Solutions, Inc. for Mach Alert Servers is approved and the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for services, with the same, for operation and maintenance of the system and equipment.

Read, approved, and adopted this the 27th day of July 2021.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney