THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: December 8, 2020

Subject: Renewal of 5 year agreement with Axon for Body Worn Camera/Taser program.

Staff Resource(s): Elise Lewis, Financial Business Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of the 2021 renewal of our Body Worn Camera/Taser agreement with Axon.

Background:

- The Asheville Police Department (APD) is nearing the end of our initial 5 year agreement with Axon for our Body Worn Camera/Taser program.
- Axon has offered us reduced pricing to renew if we can finalize the agreement by 12/31/2020.
- Axon has structured their quote in such a way that year one costs will remain the same as our prior agreement as they understand we have not budgeted for any increase for FY21.
- Our current contract isn't expiring until July 2021 (FY22) so we would have budgeted the increase for next fiscal year. However, since Axon prices change every new calendar year in January, they've offered us to renew early (with credits for current contract paid but unused service time) to secure the current pricing structure.
- The additional amount we would have paid in year one has been subsequently spread out over the remaining four years of the agreement.
- The total cost of continuing our agreement for another 5 years is $1,862,664.90.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Axon is our current vendor for the body camera/taser program and utilizes pricing per the OMNIA Cooperative Contract.
- Due to pricing from a cooperative contract, no outreach to minority and women owned business was conducted.

Council Goal(s):

- Smart City, Connected and Engaged Community

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Increase safety by continuing to provide equipment beneficial to officers and the public
- Strengthen agency accountability and transparency to the public
- Reduce complaints and resolve officer involved incidents
- Identify and correct potential internal agency problems
- Benefit public safety by accurately documenting officer interactions and evidence collection
- Used in policy compliance checks such as consent search interactions and documentation
- Compliance with National best practices of using a BWC platform to document officer interactions

Con(s):

- Increase in cost, as expected, from our original 5 year agreement

Fiscal Impact:

- No impact in the current fiscal year as Axon has calculated the year one payment amount to be

$214,008.90, which is already included in the adopted Police Department budget.
- Years two through five will see an increase from $221,244 per year to $412,164 per year.
- If we had not frozen year one pricing, this five year agreement would have been $372,532.98 per year.
- The total obligation in either scenario is $1,862,664.90 over the 5 years of the agreement.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the Asheville Police Department to renew our 5 year agreement with Axon for our Body Worn Camera/Taser program.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ASHEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO RENEW THE BODY WORN CAMERA/TASER AGREEMENT WITH AXON FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville Police Department (APD) is nearing the end of the initial 5 year agreement with Axon for the Body Worn Camera/Taser program; and

WHEREAS, Axon has offered APD reduced pricing to renew if the new 5 year agreement is finalized by December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Axon is the current vendor for the body worn camera/taser program and utilizes pricing per the OMNIA cooperative contract; and

WHEREAS, this new contract provides increased third party storage, and

WHEREAS, the APD's body-worn camera program strengthens agency accountability, helps resolve officer involved incidents, identifies and corrects potential internal agency problems, and accurately documents and captures on-scene events.

WHEREAS, the total cost of continuing our agreement for another 5 years is $1,862,664.90;

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

The City Manager is hereby authorized to renew the Police Department's agreement for an additional five years with Axon for the Body Worn Camera/Taser program.

Read, approved and adopted this the 8th day of December, 2020.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney