

September 15, 2014

To: Mayor Bemrich and City Council
From: Kevin Doty, Chief of Police
Subject: Purchase of Police Car Computers & lighting Equipment



ACTION: For Vote Monday, September 22, 2014

Brief History

The Fort Dodge Police Department was one of the first agencies in the state to start using in car computer systems. The computers are used by officers to issue citations and to file incident and accident reports. This data is then transmitted to the Department of Transportation and Court system. The computers are equipped with bar code readers which read the information off of a driver's license. This equipment also has a GPS tracking system and is hooked into the states MACH system which also serves as another source of communication with other law enforcement agencies which enhance officer safety. This technology reduces human error when issuing citations and filing reports.

Analysis of Issue

The computers in our police cars are between four to six years old. The equipment receives a lot of punishment in the police cars and is used all the time. We decided two years ago to start a rotation plan for our police car computers so that we would not have the financial hardship of replacing all nine of our computers at once. Our plan is that when the police car is replaced with a new police car, we will replace the computer system in that police car. We started implementing our rotation schedule this year; however, two additional computer systems started having problems. The purchase of two computers would assist us in maintaining our goal of only replacing computers when we replace police units. Keltex has the state bid for Panasonic Model 19 Toughbook Computers. I am also requesting the purchase of two Next Generation Imaging Scanners at a total cost of \$710.11. The cost of the two toughbook computers is \$7,743.12 with an additional cost of \$445 for a 3 year warranty. The total cost would be \$8,918.23 which includes \$20 for shipping.

Budget Impact

There will not be an impact to the Police budget. The Funds will come from the Insurance Fund.

Strategic Plan Impact

The in car computer systems are frequently used by officers to complete their work assignments. Our overall plan is to be a paperless, lean police department. The computers aid in accomplishing this plan. It is imperative that our computers in the cars operate correctly so it does not alter our overall plan.

Staff Conclusions / Recommendations

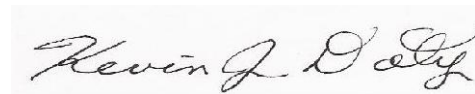
I recommend that the council approves the purchase of the two new computers and two imaging scanners.

Implementation and Accountability

With council approval I will have Captain Thode contact Keltex Inc. to order the two Panasonic CF-19 computers and two Imaging Scanners.

Signed

Approved



Kevin Doty
Chief of Police

David Fierke
City Manager