

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Council

FROM: Jeffrey L. McCormick, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Replacement of Squad Car computers

DATE: March 4, 2014

BACKGROUND

The State is requiring all computers that access the secure Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Network to be upgraded to at least Windows 7 operation system, and the FBI is requiring hard-drive encryption. Both of these requirements need to be met by May. This requires the current laptops to be upgraded, however they are four years old and the expense of the upgrades is not a wise direction to go for the age of the computers. During the 2014 budget process the City Council directed that a portion of the reserve funds should be spent on capital purchases and the squad laptop were one of the purchases approved.

Mike Gesme and I have been working to obtain costs for this purchase. During that process we talked with Goodhue County and Red Wing about making a seeking a joint quote to get the best prices possible to save money for all. The quote is for a Panasonic Toughbook model 31, which is the newer version of the model 29 that we have. We selected the Panasonic because it can be used with our existing docking platform, which provides significant savings. The cost for each of the three computers would be \$4370, which has a total savings of over \$1900 from the pricing we got alone for a slightly different configuration. Mike and I felt that because of the cost savings that going with that configuration made sense and that we would just get the items needed to use the laptops for e-charging and e-DWI processing as plug in accessory items.

Because the computers purchased would be part of the combined purchase, Goodhue County IT will configure and set them up for use on the mobile network which is also a time savings for us in not having to have Mike take care of that.

UPDATED INFORMATION

After preparing this memo on February 28 I have learned that the County did not structure this laptop order like they did when these were purchased and that the County had placed their order a couple of weeks earlier. Previously when all the laptops were purchased the order was specified with a minimum and a maximum quantity. This time the county only had the quote provided for the number they were going to order at that time and did not advise us that they were placing the order, even though they did send the pricing and specifications to us.

This has resulted in us not being able to get the same pricing. This also has impacted the County which now wants to order six additional computers and was told the previous price would not apply. Mike Gesme and I have reviewed our options and think working with the County will still result in savings, likely just not as much.

At this point the maximum price would be \$4660 instead of the \$4370 for an increase of \$290 per computer. The County is working to get the previous price and would include our

computer with their order so it could return to the lower price. I am requesting approval of the purchase the three (3) laptops for up to \$13,980 plus any shipping cost.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Mike and I recommend that we purchase three (3) Panasonic Model 31 computers from CDW-G as specified by the Goodhue County for a total cost of \$13,980 using the General Fund Reserve as approved during the budget planning.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Motion and approval to purchase three (3) Panasonic Model 31 Laptop computers from CDW-G using the General Fund Reserves for this capital purchase.