

**TO:** Mayor Althoff and City Council

**FROM:** Jeffrey L. McCormick, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Squad Car Replacement

**DATE:** May 27, 2021

**BACKGROUND**

The City Administrator has been working with all the departments to update the capital plan, including a replacement rotation for the police department fleet. The City Administrator advised that capital plan was reviewed and approved by the finance committee. Part of that plan includes the replacement of marked squad 451 this year. Since the order cut off for squad cars is the end of June, I am making the replacement request now to avoid missing the deadline if that date were to be moved up.

This is a planned replacement for marked squad 451 and has been budgeted for within the capital plan. The replacement vehicle will be a 2021 Ford Interceptor Utility which has proven to be a very good patrol vehicle and the advantages identified in 2011 have all proven themselves and has made the utility with its All-Wheel Drive (great during the winter) very popular among our officers. Advantages identified included:

- Higher seating position meaning lateral entry of officers and a higher observation level while driving and parked.
- Large side windows for checking the blind-spot.
- Greater distance from floor to dash top, keeping the open computer screen below the windshield sightline (in the Crown Vic's it covered about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the windshield height while open).
- Rear cargo interior storage area (keeps AED, Oxygen and all equipment at usable temperature during winter).
- Higher location of light bar provides increased visibility of emergency lights.

The State Contract vendor is Ten Voorde Ford of St. Cloud and the 2021 Ford Interceptor Utility as specified has an order price of \$34,966.24 with the State Bid Contract. This is the only vehicle we are planning to purchase in 2021.

Marked squad 451 will be moved to become administrative vehicle 454 and also be used by our volunteers. That will allow for the sale of current administrative vehicle 454 and volunteer vehicle 456 later this year. Reducing the fleet by one vehicle as planned for in the new capital plan.

**REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

Motion and approval to purchase of a 2021 marked squad from the State Contract Vendor and authorize the Chief of Police to sign any contracts that may be required for that purchase.