

Council Communication

Office of the City Manager



Date

February 20, 2006

Agenda Item No. 38C
Roll Call No. 06-
Communication No. 06-075

Department: Fire

AGENDA HEADING:

Award of Bid V06-078 for one (1) Fire Pumper.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the bid from Toyne, Incorporated, 104 Granite Avenue, Breda, Iowa 51436, Mike Schwabe, President, for the provision of one (1) 1500 gallon per minute (gpm) fire engine with compressed air foam system (CAFS).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$397,821.00

Funding Source: Fund Code CP041, Organization FIR990000, Project FIR013, Account 544070

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On January 9, 2006 bid requests and equipment specifications were sent to eleven reputable manufacturers of fire apparatus for the provision of one (1) 1500 gallon per minute (gpm) fire engine with compressed air foam system (CAFS) for the Des Moines Fire Department. Purchase of the this piece of fire apparatus will not result in an increase in the City's vehicle equipment fleet – this engine will go into first line service, the engine it replaces will go into ready reserve service, and an engine currently in ready reserve service will go into training reserve. A 1978 American LaFrance engine currently in training reserve will be sold.

The Fire Department Maintenance and Logistics Section has extensive experience in the preventive maintenance and body, drive train, and suspension repair of heavy fire apparatus, support vehicles, and ambulances. They bring this expertise to bear on the development of apparatus and vehicle specifications. The Fire Department Superintendent of Maintenance also discussed our requirements with several major manufacturers prior to finalizing the specifications, soliciting feedback to assure to the extent practical that the manufacturers were capable of building the apparatus. Of the eleven manufacturers who were sent a bid package, one submitted a bid, two responded that they would not bid, and eight did not respond. On January

31, 2006 the Purchasing Department opened the only bid received. This bid was reviewed by the Fire Department's Maintenance and Logistics Section and was found to be compliant.

At the request of the Fire Department, City Purchasing queried all the vendors that were sent a bid package but did not submit a proposal as to their reasons for not participating. Three vendors responded to this inquiry – one manufacturer stated that they did not have sufficient time to prepare a bid; one responded that they could not comply with our specifications; and one cited a miscommunication with their local distributor for the failure to participate in our process.

The City purchased three (3) 1500 gpm engines in 2002 at a cost of \$298,204 per unit. The inclusion of the CAFS technology on this piece of apparatus adds an estimated \$45,000 to \$60,000 to its cost. Given the price of the advancement in technology and the fact that the City is purchasing only one unit, the estimated increase in the bid of 3% to 4% per year is considered by the Fire Department to be reasonable and the Procurement Administrator and the Fire Department recommend awarding the bid to Toyne, Incorporated.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date:

Roll Call Number:

Action:

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date:

Roll Call Number:

Action:

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: