



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

October 12, 2009

Agenda Item No. 48A

Roll Call No. 09-

Communication No. 09-710

Submitted by: Judy A. Bradshaw, Chief of Police

AGENDA HEADING:

Award of Tait Radio Communications 15740 Park Row Suite 450, Houston, Texas 77084, Steve Cragg, President as the successful vendor to construct the Metro Interoperability Communications System and to approve City staff to negotiate a contract with Tait Radio Communications.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of bid award to Tait Radio Communications to construct the Metro Interoperability Communications System. The City of Des Moines, Iowa Police and Fire Departments with the approval of the City Council submitted a Radio Interoperability Project to the Federal Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, which was offering a grant for interoperability projects. The City of Des Moines was awarded the grant money to construct the Metro Interoperability Communications System. The City was awarded the grant amount in the sum of \$3,000,000 which was placed in the Capital Improvement Program BLD116.

This system allows public safety agencies in Polk County to communicate with one another in a mobile radio environment. This also includes some agencies in Dallas and Warren Counties. Radio Tower sites have been identified and a Request for Proposal V09-123 was disseminated to qualified Radio Communications vendors to construct the system. Two proposals were received and after an evaluation of the proposals the vendor compiling the most qualifying points was selected. The successful proposal was submitted by Tait Radio Communications. The Police and Fire Departments now desire that the City Council approve the selection of Tait Radio Communications as the successful vendor and instruct City staff to negotiate a contract with Tait Radio Communications to complete the construction of the Metro Interoperability Communications System.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$2,542,014

Funding Source: \$3,000,000 Capital Improvement Program BLD 116 CPO34, POL990000, CIP Fiscal Year 2008-2009/20013-2014 Municipal Building Section Improvement 24. \$1,158,868 E-911 Surcharge, GE001, POL040900, Recommended Budget ending Fiscal Year June 30, 2010 page 233.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Upon the approval of the City Council, the police and fire departments, in conjunction with the Polk County Sheriff's Office, submitted an interoperability plan to the Department of Justice, Office of

Community Oriented Policing Services. The plan was accepted and the City received \$3,000,000 dollars to initiate and complete the project. In addition to the grant money another \$1,158,868 from the E-911 Surcharge was encumbered for the project. The system is called the Metro Interoperability Communications System. This system will allow mobile radio communication throughout Polk County and parts of Dallas and Warren County.

RCC Consultants were hired to assist the City in identifying applicable Tower Sites to enable proper Radio Frequency Coverage and to construct a Request for Proposal to identify a Radio Communications vendor who could construct the system. A Request for Proposal V09-123 was created and disseminated to qualified vendors. Two vendors submitted proposals. They are RACOM Communications and Tait Radio Communications. With the assistance of RCC Consultants, an evaluation team was chosen from the City police and fire departments, the Polk County Sheriff's Office and the WestCom Communications facility.

The two vendors were very close in experience and cost. The evaluation team determined Tait Radio Communications did provide more modern equipment that was easier to maintain and more efficient to configure directional patterns critical to a Simulcast System desired by the City. The team furthermore believes the project schedule submitted by Tait Radio Communications was timelier for project completion and in the better interest of the City and the County.

The City staff requests approval from the Council to begin and formulate a contract with Tait Radio Communications to complete the Metro Interoperability Communications System. It is anticipated RCC Consultants will be needed to assist with the contract negotiations.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 7, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-2721

Action: Approved, Motion by Kiernan to adopt, passed 7-0

Date: July 6, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-1603

Action: Approval of application, Motion by Vlassis to adopt, passed 5-0, Coleman and Hensley absent.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval of construction contract.

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