

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	May 18, 2015
	Agenda Item No.	49C
	Roll Call No.	<u>15-841</u>
	Communication No.	<u>15-244</u>
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval to purchase eight (8) Explosive Ordinance Detection (EOD)/Bomb blast protection suits with enhanced mobility from MED-ENG, 103 Tulloch Drive, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, Scott O'Brien, President, the manufacturer and sole area wide distributor.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department requests and recommends approval of the purchase of bomb suits to supply the statewide EOD/Bomb certified teams. These suits will replace existing equipment which is worn and has reached the end of serviceable life. This updated suit incorporates technological advancements in mobility. The Des Moines EOD/ Bomb team will retain one suit and helmet with the remaining equipment being distributed to the seven (7) certified EOD/ Bomb teams throughout the state.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$193,104.00

Funding Source: HSP00014 FFY2014 Homeland Security EOD Grant found on page 211 of the Recommended Budget, Department Detail for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The EOD /Bomb Task Force Leadership Committee has completed a capability and investment justification for the FFY 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program funding based on the National Preparedness Goal, Federal Target Capabilities List, and the Iowa Strategy for Homeland Security and Emergency Management guidelines. The enhanced mobility feature of the suits is vital to the efficiency and effectiveness in mitigating an explosive device especially if there is a known time element. The current suits are worn and have reached the end of serviceable life. The suits have a recommended effectiveness for a seven (7) years period. The current suits were purchased in 2007. The new suit incorporates new technology that increases the technician's ability to move more naturally and freely.

The accompanying helmet has a face cover that is anti-fog and anti-scratch protected with a built-in searchlight. These features increase visibility and protection. The helmet has an attachment for a contained breathing apparatus and includes a throat microphone to enable communications. The hard wire communication system should reduce the risk of inducing radio frequency signals in an improvised explosive device (IED).

The communication system that allows the person in the suit to communicate with the support technicians in the blast free zone is unique and will only operate with the MED-ENG manufactured suit. Statewide, EOD/Bomb certified teams reuse communications equipment, limiting the replacement cost to new protection suits. Choosing protection suits from another manufacturer would also require purchasing a different communications system compatible with the new suits and adding cost to the total purchase.

A non-competitive procurement of new protection suits from MED-ENG is recommended to resupply the statewide OED/Bomb certified teams as provided for in Municipal Code Section 2-726 (a)(7) is recommended. The Code allows procurement of goods and/or services that are (1) of such nature that they are the only goods and/or services which will fit and comply with the required use, or (2) are an integral part of a total system so as to be uniquely compatible with existing City need, materials or equipment to be cost effective. The recommended purchase is cost effective and fits the Code description for this non-competitive procurement.

The equipment being ordered will be distributed among the certified EOD/Bomb teams statewide. Each team will receive one (1) suit and one (1) helmet. The suits and helmets are involved in specified training exercises held throughout the state. The universal equipment will allow all the teams to train using common practices associated with identical equipment.

The City of Des Moines serves as the fiscal agent and the authorized representative for the administration of the Iowa FFY2014 Homeland Security Grant funding on behalf of the Iowa EOD/Bomb Task Force Program.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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