

Item 25-0257: Approve Sole Source Request-Axon Air/DroneSense in the amount of \$42,322.16

Safety and Licensing Committee
Wed, Mar 26, 2025 5:30PM

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 58:44

All right, moving on to 25-0257, approve sole source request Axon Air Drone Sense in the amount of \$42,322.16

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 58:57

Move for approval.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 58:58

Second.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 58:59

Motion and a second to approve. Chief Olson, district two should be on.

Police Chief Polly Olson 59:06

So, thank you. I'm assuming that the committee members had a chance to read the memo, so I'm not going to repeat what's on here, but I certainly am happy to answer any questions that you might have about this request.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 59:18

Okay, yes, thank you. Hopefully everyone did, and question, Alder Fenton.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 59:22

Thank you, chair. So, may I direct to Chief Olson? So, Chief Olson, I did indeed read the memo, and I'm still just a tiny bit confused. Is the contract with Axon—does that include any of the hardware, or is that just for data storage? Can you give me a little bit more detail about what the contract is for?

Police Chief Polly Olson 59:45

Sure. So, the contract is for a combination of things, but mostly the software. So right now, as you're well aware, the council approved a five-year contract with Axon in a previous budget cycle, and this would be an additional service that has now since become available that wasn't available to us at the time. That is, now we can hopefully acquire it.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:14

All right.

Police Chief Polly Olson 1:00:15

So, it'll run the duration of our five-year contract. So whenever—you know, if it passes through, we would add that to the existing so it will all be expired at the same time.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:25

Okay, and can I follow up?

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:00:27
Go ahead.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:27
So that explains the—

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:00:28
Oh, hang on, we gotta have the doors stay open.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:31
Oh, the doors have to be open.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:00:32
Yeah, sorry, I didn't mean to—

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:34
It's okay.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:00:34
—interrupt you, but as soon as I saw the gentleman close it, I'm like, we need to keep that open.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:40
So, can I assume that explains the kind of weird number of months in the contract?

Police Chief Polly Olson 1:00:46
Correct. Yeah. It all depends on when this actually gets signed and goes through, and then we'll have—so the dollar amount that's here, it'll be less than that, because the contract terms will actually be shorter by the time it all goes through.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:00:59
Thank you. I understand better now.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:01:02
Thank you. And Alder Schultz needs to depart so we can document 6:32-6:33. All right. Thank you. See you, Alex.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:01:11
Alder Hartzheim, go ahead. 13?

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 1:01:15
Correct. Thank you. Chair. As you know, I'm always wanted to ask about sole sourcing, and I see that this has some, you know, valid points as to why this must be a sole source or they're requesting a sole source. But I'm very confused as to is there really no other solution that's competitive to this? I understand the value of this, but I am curious about even trying to see if there's anything else available, but there isn't?

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:01:47
Yeah, I and I appreciate your concerns with sole source. Chief Olson, do you want to comment on that?

Police Chief Polly Olson 1:01:53

Yeah, I mean, I think we—excuse me. I totally agree with you. If we could find a solution that was a little bit less expensive than what's being offered here, we would be very interested in that as well. The problem that we have by going with any other vendors of which there are very few, if any, that would be comparable to this, is that it would not be compatible with all of our existing technology that we have since we have gone with Axon with all the rest of our technology. It all does work together, which makes this such an attractive package.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 1:02:31

Thank you. I totally get that and am excited about this, but I hope we can find out what some of those numbers might be too as like a just a apples-to-apples comparison. Thank you. We don't need it at this point, in my opinion, but that's something that I would look for in the future.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:02:50

Understand. Yep. Thank you. All right. Other Alder Doran, go ahead.

Alderson Chad Doran (District 15) 1:02:55

Thank you. Chief, you mentioned in the memo, sort of a number of, I guess, benefits of using this program. Can you just clarify what this provides that the department currently could not or maybe doesn't have the resources to do on its own at this point? It—would that be just everything that's listed here, essentially, or—I'm just wondering if there are things we already do that this—we think this will help improve or give us some capability that we don't currently have.

Police Chief Polly Olson 1:03:27

It provides us a capability that we don't currently have. So, what this allows for is say—for an example, let's say I'm even at home and, you know, we have an incident that happens in the middle of the night. This provides an opportunity for our pilots that are on scene, that are flying a drone perhaps over a scene, where they can cast it to cell phones. So, you don't have to—I wouldn't even have to be in the city or present in order to see what was unfolding in an incident. That's just one of many examples that having this type of technology provides.

Alderson Chad Doran (District 15) 1:04:04

Okay. Thank you.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 1:04:05

Okay, thank you. Other comments, questions? Not seeing any. We have a motion and a second to approve, correct? All right, all those in favor of approving the contract, the sole source contract, signify by saying aye. All opposed? Any abstentions? Four zero.