City of Birmingham
A Walkable Community

MEMORANDUM

Police Department

DATE: **May 21, 2014**

TO: **Joseph A. Valentine, Interim City Manager**

FROM: **Donald Studt, Chief of Police / Ellen DeView, Services Coordinator**

SUBJECT: **Pelco Camera and City Hall Video System Upgrade**

The police department camera and city hall video system was initiated in 2001. This equipment includes 31 cameras, a digital video recorder, monitors, and controllers in the dispatch center. The system is used not only to view and record video in and around city hall and the police department, but also includes 11 wireless cameras located throughout the business district and in three parks. Our long term evidence and bicycle storage facilities located at the DPS are also connected to this system. Although several minor upgrades have been completed since the system was installed, this equipment is in need of replacement due to age and condition.

The manufacturer of the video equipment is Pelco by Schneider Electronic. The 11 remote cameras on this system utilize a wireless network that was designed and engineered by FluidMesh. While the system has worked well for several years, the Pelco encoders and decoders that allow the cameras to work on the FluidMesh network are no longer manufactured, as this technology has migrated to an Internet Protocal (IP) platform that does not require a proprietary analog to digital decoding system.

The 11 wireless pan / tilt / zoom cameras are antiquated and should be replaced by high definition IP cameras which will not require decoders to function. There are also 14 cameras in and around city hall including the police lobby, jail cells, and booking room that would be upgraded to provide much greater megapixel video and zoom technology. Six of the 31 cameras used in evidence rooms will not be replaced, as the costs are not warranted for those units.

Abel Electronics of St. Clair Shores, MI has been the sole source vendor for sales and repair since the bid award for the design and installation of the original system. Abel is also the vendor for the golf courses and DPS video system. We have received a proposal from Abel for replacement of this equipment. The proposed system replaces the current digital video recorder with a Pelco Endura system that will provide expansion for future IP cameras that may be added to the system. It also provides for new LED monitors, controllers, and keyboards for use by dispatch staff.

Total cost for an Endura management system and dispatch equipment, replacement of 11 wireless cameras and FluidMesh network, and replacement of 14 city hall cameras will be $136,260.98 based on GSA contract pricing contract #GS-07F-9323S. This project was identified in the 2014-15 Federal Drug Forfeiture Capital Outlay budget and was presented at the City's Long Range Planning meeting in January 2014.

Suggested Resolution: To approve the purchase and installation of a Pelco Endura video management system, (25) cameras, (2) 58" LED monitors, (2) 32" LED monitors, dispatch controllers, and related hardware from Abel Electronics in the amount of $136,260.98 based on GSA contract contract #GS-07F-9323S pricing, further to authorize this budgeted expenditure to account number 265-302.001-971.0000.

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