

Memo

TO: City Council Members

THROUGH: Mayor Chris Grover & Mark Schuller, City Administrator

FROM: John D. Hensley, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: AXON Taser Replacement Proposal

DATE: September 14, 2021

Background

The Police Department has deployed the taser as a less-lethal force option for more than a decade. The taser has been an effective less-lethal tool used to successfully mitigate active physical resistance during police and mental health crisis encounters. It has now come time to replace our taser inventory with updated technology.

Discussion

This purchase is needed to replace our aging taser inventory which is five-years old and/or an obsolete model. The useful life of a taser is five years, after which there is an increased risk of failure. We have been advised by Axon, that our current X-26 Tasers can no longer be supported due to the obsolescence of the technology.

With that in mind, Axon offers a purchase plan covering five years, with 16 'Taser 7' units, taser cartridge replacements, taser targets, and de-escalation training videos provided as a bundle subscription. The bundle option will save the City nearly \$31,000 over the course of the contract. Moreover, after 30 months the 16 Taser 7 units and remaining supplies will be replaced at no charge.

Budget Implications

The budget projections listed below are based upon a 16 unit -Taser 7 plan:

5-Year Taser 7 Plan: \$14,800

Year 1: \$3000
Year 2: \$3000
Year 3: \$3000

Year 4: \$3000
Year 5: \$3000

Axon is on the State contract (#06316) for body camera and taser purchasing.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City enter into a contract with AXON for the Taser 7 plan for a period of 5 years. This recommendation is based upon our experience with Axon products, our research, and our discussions with other agencies using the product.