

CITY OF WAUWATOSA

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BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Committee Room #2

PRESENT: Ald. Bruderle-Baran, Grimm, Jenkins, Matthews, McCarthy, Stepaniak, Subotich – 7

EXCUSED: Ald. Casey

ALSO PRESENT: T. Wontorek, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Atty.; B. Aldana, Asst. City Atty.; R. Braier, Finance Dir.; Chief D. Redman, Fire; Capt. J. Bozicevich, Police; M. Mulroy, Library Dir.; J. Bembenek, Purchasing Mgr.

Ald. Stepaniak as Chair called the meeting to order 8:06 p.m.

Enhanced 911 equipment upgrade

Mr. Bembenek said that last year they purchased and installed “Phase I” of the planned replacement of the 911 emergency telephone system upgrade which included a line upgrade and three new phone systems in the emergency dispatch center, one phone system for each dispatch console. This year they plan to complete “Phase II” of the upgrade which consists of replacing the infrastructure for a budgeted cost of \$150,000.

Capt. Bozicevich said the 911 system was installed in 1988. The system is now over fourteen years old and at the end of its useful life. It needs to be upgraded so the police department will be able to accept any new system that will be required in the future. He said that the infrastructure upgrade will have the following enhancements: 1) it will allow for cell phone routing to the police department which enables dispatchers to pinpoint the location of callers using wireless phones. It is anticipated that cell phone technologies will be greatly improved in the future; 2) it will have management report capability. This will include the number of 911 calls received, their peak times, length and how many times 911 calls are answered by specific dispatchers; 3) it will have a mapping system which will pinpoint on a citywide map, exactly where any 911 call originates (land line or wireless); 4) it will be a pc based, user friendly dispatch console.

Capt. Bozicevich said that when they put out the Request for Proposals (RFP), three different companies responded. He pointed out that TDS Telecom and SBC (Ameritech) have excellent systems. The SBC system is compatible with the current system in that it is a positron system. TDS is not compatible. He stressed that limiting the number of vendors supplying the equipment helps to avoid a lot of finger pointing when something goes wrong. He recommended approval of the purchase agreement as proposed with SBC (Ameritech) in the amount of \$149,019. He also recommended approval for the purchasing department to buy three 17 inch LCD monitors for the system for a total cost not to exceed \$981.

With regard to funding, Capt. Bozicevich told the committee that there is a fifty cent State of Wisconsin surcharge that will be attached to all wireless telephone bills from every provider. That money will be collected and given to counties so they can upgrade their systems. He explained that just one county will be allocated the money from the surcharge and one municipality or entity is going to get the money. The funding is crafted to consolidate the dispatch centers and encourage one dispatch system. He expressed his support for this idea. He doubted the money would come to Wauwatosa. He suggested that the committee give approval for the vendor and for signing the contract and then postpone the actual signing for about three weeks. By then, the state will have signed off on the funding bill and they will be able to see how the funding will be distributed. He said this

would give everyone a comfort level while waiting for final legislation. The department wouldn't enter into the final nuts and bolts of the contract until the legislation is passed.

Ald. McCarthy asked how 911 call routing with the county works. Capt. Bozicevich explained that the county will try to transfer the calls to the municipalities they originated in. If that is not possible, the county would call the city with as much information as they can gather. In response to questions regarding the type of system that would be installed, Capt. Bozicevich said it would either be a Global Positional System (GPS) or a triangulation system. They don't know which way the company is going to go at this time. He pointed out that the advantage with the GPS is that it is extremely accurate. The disadvantage is that it will be pricey. He said they know that either technology will be accepted by the new system.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Matthews to recommend approval of the contract with SBC (Ameritech) with the stipulation that the contract will not be signed until the matter of the state surcharge is resolved --

Capt. Bozicevich explained that the decision regarding whether the vendor would use GPS or triangulation was under federal mandate and should have already been made; however, it will probably be finalized in the next two years. Ald. Bruderle-Baran pointed out that the public safety benefit of a system upgrade is that the calls can be tracked and pinpointed. She expressed concern about why the upgrade is being done now if the technology decision will be made in two years. Capt. Bozicevich reiterated that the current system is more than 14 years old and the system needs to be upgraded now. Ald. Bruderle-Baran asked how the average person's safety would be enhanced if they make a phone call from a regular phone. Capt. Bozicevich answered that the call would be pinpointed on a map. He said that even if the cell phone technology wasn't an issue, the system would have to be upgraded this year because the equipment is very old and they wanted to be pro-active with the upgrade and replacement in order to position the department for future technology.

Ald. Bruderle-Baran pointed out that if someone calls 911 right now and doesn't give an address they can still be located. For approximately \$150,000 there will be an improvement with locating cell phones. She felt more comfortable with waiting until the technology is decided upon. To throw this much money into technology in the future would be great; however, she didn't see a benefit for now. Mr. Bembenek said the system must be upgraded for quicker response time. Ald. Bruderle-Baran asked if it was possible that someone would call 911 and not get an answer. Capt. Bozicevich responded that it could happen if there was a breakdown in the system. He added that even if cell phone technology was ten years away, they would be requesting approval for this proposal now.

Ald. McCarthy asked if the system would be able to run reports. Capt. Bozicevich said the upgraded system could provide a variety of reports. They are basically meant for management, internal records and to highlight where the peaks and valleys of call activity are.

Ald. Grimm asked if the department has a service agreement for 911. Mr. Bembenek responded that they felt it was more cost effective to go on a call-by-call basis because service agreements are very expensive. Ald. Grimm asked if there were any grants available. Capt. Bozicevich answered that to his knowledge, there is no money available.

Wes Niemcek, TDS Telecom, said the discussion was very interesting and he was delighted to be one of the bidders. He said that TDS has been supplying 911 systems to a number of area communities. Their systems have been approved because of the price. He pointed that they are the low bidder in this case again. He expressed concern about the bidding process in this case. He said TDS has a wonderful track record and they are developing some of the technologies that were mentioned. He recommended that the decision to select a vendor

be looked at again. He thought TDS should have at least the option for the dispatchers to look at the system they would be using. They feel they have a better product at a lower cost.

Capt. Bozicevich said TDS has a very good system, as does SBC. He stressed that he had brought dispatchers to look at both these systems in two different communities. He said that TDS cannot be compatible with the department's current \$30,000 phone system. In the bidding process, he would give SBC the advantage because the department cannot afford to replace the system. He reiterated that in the critical area of dispatching, it is important to limit the number of vendors. He felt standardization was very important.

In response to questions regarding the procedure for addressing the question of revisiting the bidding process, Mr. Kesner said the requirement of the committee and the Council is to purchase the product that is in the best interest of the city. It is a broad based concept. He said the committee has the power to rely on the staff proposal, ask questions or reject the staff proposal. He clarified that in this case, the committee would be approving a specific vendor. Ald. Bruderle - Baran said she would vote present at this time. She expressed her full faith in the staff, but she still had some questions.

By a roll call vote, vote on the motion was, Ayes: 6, Noes: 0, Present: 1 (Bruderle -Baran)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant application

Chief Redman said the fire department has completed the preliminary documents to apply for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The department's radio communications system needs to be upgraded to the 800 MHz system currently in use by the police department. A minor adjustment will add four portable radios that would be passed on to other agencies for inter-operability. They are also increasing the request to include a 5% cost increase. Chief Redman said the transmitters are probably more than 14 years old and nearing the end of their useful life. The county owns and operates the infrastructure and they allow local agencies to be included. This year's grant is funded at 90% of the total project cost of \$301,000. The city's match would be 10% or \$30,100, the FEMA portion would be \$270,900. He added that last year they qualified for the funding, but the city was cut at the last minute because there weren't enough funds to go around. He pointed out one change from his memo regarding the city's share of the grant being set aside from the Reserve for Contingencies. The Finance Director suggested that rather than designating the city's share from the Reserve for Contingencies, the department should target monies that will show up in the mid-year re-estimate of the budget. Chief Redman explained that they have an estimated \$25,000 in salary savings so those funds could be set aside for mid-year. If they do not get the grant funding they will not make the upgrade.

Moved by Ald. Bruderle-Baran, seconded by Ald. Grimm to recommend approval of the FEMA grant application in the amount of \$301,000 and to approve matching funds of 10% or \$30,100 – 7

Adult Reference and Reference Supervisor vacancies in the Library

Ms. Mulroy said her immediate concern is for staffing in the Library. The library was asked to reduce their budget by 2%. She said they have left vacant one position in the circulation department contributing to a savings of \$26,000 in the department's budget. Having met the 2% reduction in the library's budget, Ms. Mulroy stressed that they needed the staffing. The Reference Supervisor has resigned and they would like to promote the Adult Reference Librarian to the Reference Supervisor position. The full time Adult Reference Librarian position would be filled by an employee currently working as a part time circulation attendant. The part time circulation attendant position is the one that would be left vacant at a savings to the department. In addition to the money saved there, additional money will be saved through the salary differential in hiring the new reference librarian position. She recommended filling the Adult Reference Librarian vacancy.

Mr. Wontorek reiterated that Ms. Mulroy has already accomplished a permanent savings that would be comparable to the salary position. He explained that the \$17,000 savings mentioned in the memo would actually be \$11,000 and that is not a permanent savings. This ties into a request from the Civil Service Commission involving an ordinance amendment that would encourage the promotion of current employees, if qualified, before recruiting from the outside for new employees.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Grimm to recommend authorization for the Adult Reference Librarian position to be filled – 7

Moved by Ald. Bruderle-Baran, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g): Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, and may reconvene into open session – 7

The committee convened into closed session at 8:58 p.m.

Claim of United Dynacare Laboratories, 9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Matthews to recommend denial of the claim. Vote on the motion was, Ayes: 6, Noes: 0, Present: 1 (Bruderle-Baran)

Claim of FH Healthcare Development, Inc., 9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

Moved by Ald. Matthews, seconded by Ald. Jenkins to recommend approval to pay a portion of the claim in the amount of \$210,094 and to deny the remaining balance of the total claim of \$438,861.21. Vote on the motion was, Ayes: 6, Noes: 0, Present: 1 (Bruderle-Baran)

Vouchers

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FOR</u>
J. Tschudy, J. Nash	\$130.00	Water – 3/12/03 – Middleton Connectivity Information Conference
B. Weber	\$204.25	Police – 3/12-3/14/03 – Janesville Wisconsin Chief’s Mid-Winter Conference
M. Carberry	\$137.76	Fire – 2/21-2/23/03 – La Crosse Wisconsin State Fire Chief’s Seminar
D. Redman, M. Anton	\$538.77	Fire – 3/5-3/7/03 – Wisconsin Dells WI Fire Chief’s Education Conf. & Legis. Breakfast
R. Harris	\$35.00	Planning – 4/4/03 – Waukesha Housing Conference

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FOR</u>
L. Kavelaris	\$425.00	Police – 3/7-3/8/03 – Milwaukee Airbag Safety Seminar
P. Allen, B. Dess, R. Mente	\$69.00	Parks – 3/13/03 – Waukesha Reinder’s Turf and Irrigation Conference

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Matthews that the vouchers be allowed and paid – 7

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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