

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF SOFTWARE, HARDWARE, AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND:

The City, Story County and Iowa State University share a public safety information management system. The system includes computer aided dispatch, records management, jail management, and related criminal justice software. Representatives from Story County, the City of Ames, and Iowa State University form a joint management group known as the MultiAgency Public Safety Group (MAPSG). There is a formal 28E Agreement among the agencies, and the City acts as the lead agency hosting and maintaining software and hardware for the system.

In February 2011, after a procurement process by MAPSG, the City Council approved the purchase of new public safety management software, OSSI Public Safety Suite, in the amount of \$419,543. Funding for the software included \$210,065 from a U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant; \$30,000 from the Story County E911 Board; \$61,900 from Story County, specifically to fund the jail software; and the remaining \$117,578 shared equally among the members. The member agencies also share the ongoing costs for the information management system.

Later in the spring of 2011, the MAPSG completed the purchase of the new information management system from OSSI. One of the first steps in the implementation of the OSSI system is the configuration, purchase, and setup of the servers and other computer hardware that will support the system. As staff worked on the implementation process, changes in the hardware configuration were identified that will improve the system's hardware redundancy and recoverability in the event of disasters.

In September 2011, Council approved the purchase of \$184,606 in additional equipment to support the redundancy and disaster recovery of the OSSI public safety information management system. These functions are defined as:

Redundancy – Protection against typical hardware and software failures that may cause parts of the system to fail. Examples include hard drive failure or power supply failure.

Disaster Recovery – Protection necessary to provide for rapid and orderly recovery from physical destruction catastrophic failure of the public safety information management system. In the disaster recovery scenario, the servers are housed in Nevada and Ames.

This September 2011 request allowed the funds from the MAPSG depreciation account to be used to complete the purchase of the hardware and supporting software for this project. The depreciation funds were contributed equally by Ames, Story County and Iowa State

University to fund replacement of the equipment that supported our current CAD system. The current balance in the depreciation fund is \$247,395. The purchase of this equipment meets the established intended use of the depreciation account for MAPSG.

In November 2011, a request for proposal (RFP) was issued to solicit responses from qualified vendors to recommend and implement a high availability solution using VMware® server virtualization and NetApp® unified storage architecture that both the County and City already have implemented in their own information technology environments.

The RFP was advertised on the City's Purchasing website, and proposal documents were issued to five potential bidders. On December 1, 2011, responses were received from two vendors. These proposals were evaluated by information technology personnel at Story County, Iowa State University, and the City. The two proposals were determined to be compliant with the basic requirements of the RFP and were scored in detail. Scores and costs for these proposals are as follows:

	Score	Cost
IP Pathways, LLC	569.00	\$ 107,647.38
RSM McGladrey, Inc.	502.04	\$ 135,992.00

Based on the final scores, staff determined that IP Pathways, LLC is the best fit for the purchase of additional equipment to support the redundancy and disaster recovery of the OSSI public safety information management system. Staff recommends the award of contract in the one-time amount of \$107,647.38 for hardware, software, and services to support the redundancy and recoverability of the OSSI public safety information management system. There is an estimated \$20,000 in additional minor equipment and installation expenses that will need to be purchased to complete this project. The \$107,647.38 IP Pathways contract and the installation expenses of up to \$20,000 is still less than the \$184,606 previously approved by Council for this project. **This City's financial share for the redundancy and disaster recovery equipment will come from the depreciation funds already accumulated.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to IP Pathways, LLC of Urbandale Iowa, in the amount of \$107,647.38 for hardware, software, and services to support the redundancy and recoverability of the OSSI public safety information management system.
2. Reject all proposals and delay the implementation of the redundancy and recoverability of the OSSI public safety information management system.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approving the purchase of this hardware, software, and services to support the redundancy and recoverability of the OSSI public safety information management system will provide a critical level of protection against system failure or destruction. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, awarding this contract as described above.