

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF POLICE CARS

BACKGROUND:

Nine marked and lighted police squad cars are provided for the City's law enforcement services. New cars are typically ordered from September to March each year. Squad cars are replaced on a 25 month cycle on a staggered schedule.

Four cars are scheduled to be replaced over the next 12 months. Bids have been taken for two new 2015 Ford Interceptor police cars as approved by Council.

Bids were received as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>
Stivers Ford Lincoln, Waukee	2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor	\$25,586
Ames Ford Lincoln, Ames	2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor	\$25,884
Dewey Ford, Ankeny	2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor	\$26,460

All bids meet the specification requirements, and Stivers Ford of Waukee, IA submitted the low bid.

The Fleet Replacement Fund will have \$280,024 cash on hand December 31, 2014 for the replacement of our police cars. These cars are anticipated to be received in January 2015.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award the contract to Stivers Ford, Waukee, IA, for two 2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor sedans, at \$25,586 each, for a total of \$51,172 for delivery in January 2015.
2. Waive the City's Purchasing Policies and Procedures and award the contract for the two police cars to one of the other two bidders.
3. Reject these bids and re-bid.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The purchase of these two 2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor sedans is a well-planned purchase of squad cars for the City's Police Department. Therefore, it is the

recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No.1 as described above.

The City Council should note that City staff was previously directed to develop a local consideration policy which would apply to certain bids, including vehicle purchases. This policy would award a bid to a local bidder that was higher than a non-local bidder if the local bid was less than 1% higher than the non-local bid. However, this policy has not yet been returned to the City Council for approval, and therefore is not in effect.

The local bid in this instance, from Ames Ford Lincoln, is 1.16% higher than the low bid from Stivers Ford. According to the local consideration policy the Council has directed staff to develop, this bid would therefore not have qualified for local consideration had the policy been in effect.

Furthermore, it is important to emphasize that local consideration policy language was not included in this invitation to bid. While the City Council would be within its power to award this bid to the local bidder in this instance, staff advises against this due to the possibility of a protest from the low bidder and damage that may result to the perception of other non-local bidders regarding the bidding climate in Ames.