

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 26, 2022

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Doug Thornley, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Resolution authorizing a medium-term obligation in an amount of up to \$5,912,631.39 for the second amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. regarding the purchase of body worn cameras, Tasers, fleet video, Axon interview, unlimited cloud storage for evidence.com, virtual reality training, redaction assistant, and additional miscellaneous Axon Software for the Reno Police Department; directing the officers of the City to forward materials to the Department of Taxation of the State of Nevada; and providing certain details in connection therewith. (E911 Surcharge Fees and General Fund) (Two-thirds majority voting requirement)

From: Vicki Van Buren, Director of Finance

Department: Finance

Summary:

This resolution authorizes the purchase of body worn cameras, Tasers, fleet video, AXON interview, unlimited cloud storage for evidence.com, virtual reality training, redaction assistant, and additional miscellaneous Axon Software for the Reno Police Department.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Public Safety

Fiscal Sustainability

Previous Council Action:

August 11, 2021 – City Council approved Resolution No 8951 authorizing a medium-term obligation in an amount of up to \$1,200,000 for the first amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. regarding the financing and maintaining in-car video recording devices (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage for the Reno Police Department.

February 18, 2021 - Washoe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the

reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno for year 1 costs associated with the Axon Enterprise, Inc. to purchase dashboard cameras.

January 21, 2021 - the Washoe County Regional 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee recommended reimbursement to the City of Reno for an estimated total expenditures of \$507,024.00 to purchase Axon dashboard cameras.

March 12, 2019 - the BCC authorized a Joinder Contract to purchase Axon Fleet II in-car video and related supplies through the State of Nevada “3273 – Contract for Services of Independent Contractor” awarded to Axon Enterprise, Inc. (formerly Taser International), 17800 N. 85th St, Scottsdale, AZ, 85255.

March 28, 2018 – City Council approved Resolution No. 8518 authorizing a medium-term obligation in an amount of up to \$1,800,000 for the master services agreement with regard to financing and maintaining portable event recording devices with Axon Enterprises, Inc. related to body worn and vehicle camera systems, directing the officers of the City to forward materials to the Department of Taxation of the State of Nevada; and providing certain details in connection therewith.

February 20, 2018 - the BCC adopted the Washoe County Regional 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee Five Year Master Plan as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee.

January 16, 2018 - the BCC adopted the policy of the Use of 911 Surcharge Funds for the Body Camera Mandate set forth in Nevada Senate Bill 176

Background:

Senate Bill (SB) 176 was passed during the 2017 Nevada Legislative Session which required all state and local law enforcement agencies, including the Reno Police Department and the Reno Court Marshal’s service, to begin using portable event recording devices, more commonly called body worn cameras (BWC) as of July 1, 2018.

Further, the bill set forth a funding mechanism to provide for the cost of “purchasing and maintaining portable event recording devices” by allowing the County Commission to increase the 911 surcharge on telephone lines (both mobile and landlines) up to \$1.00 per month. These surcharges became effective on May 1, 2018. The City of Reno approved the Master Services and Purchasing Agreement with Axon Enterprises, Inc. on March 28, 2018. The agreement was for Portable Event Recording Devices (BWC), peripheral equipment and data storage. With the executed agreement, the Reno Police Department successfully deployed a BWC program in April 2018, well ahead of the statutory mandate. These BWC’s have proven to be valuable tools

for law enforcement professionals and have been successful in providing evidence for criminal proceedings, administrative reviews pertaining to performance and discipline, and in providing essential elements of transparency to the public.

The next step in expanding the successes of the BWC program was the addition of fleet cameras. Council approved the first amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises Inc. regarding the financing and maintaining in-car video recording devices (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage for the Reno Police Department. This technology has the ability to pair BWC video with in-car video simultaneously thereby contributing to a more accurate account of events for prosecution, defense, juries, and the public.

On January 16, 2018, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners passed a policy governing the use of 911 surcharge funds, requiring the E911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee (911 ERAC) to ensure that the City of Reno, City of Sparks and Washoe County utilize a mutually agreed upon vendor to provide body cameras and vehicle cameras for its individual agencies.

Discussion:

The medium-term obligation provides the financing for the second amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. regarding the purchase of body worn cameras, Tasers, fleet video, Axon interview, unlimited cloud storage for evidence.com, virtual reality training, redaction assistant, and additional miscellaneous Axon Software for the Reno Police. This agreement ensures the Reno Police Department will continue to have the most up to date technology on the market with automatic refresh dates within the agreement. The BWC's will be refreshed every 2.5 years with the latest BWC model while fleet and Taser will be updated with the latest models every 5 years. During this time Axon will provide warranties on all equipment with replacement if the item cannot be repaired. Axon will also continue to update and improve software, including virtual reality programs and technology at no additional cost. The agreement also includes many additional features such as Axon Interview, virtual reality training, unlimited storage in evidence.com, unlimited Taser cartridges and batteries, redaction study, auto transcription, and third party video support.

Financial Implications:

The Axon agreement requires annual payments over ten (10) years in a total amount not to exceed \$5,912,631.39. Funding for the purposes of purchasing and maintaining video recording devices, related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage is provided by the 911 surcharge imposed by Washoe County ordinance that is currently in effect. The City of Reno

anticipates reimbursement of the costs associated with the video recording devices from the 911 surcharge fees. The anticipated annual reimbursement from the Emergency Response Advisory Committee is \$528,864 and the remaining annual amount of \$76,836 will be from the General Fund (Police budget). Departmental cost savings in the Police budget are anticipated in areas such as transcription services, police training, data storage, video support, and interview room maintenance.

Legal Implications:

The master services and purchasing agreement is a medium-term obligation, which requires a resolution passed by two-thirds of the City Council. If the agreement and resolution are approved by City Council, the medium-term obligation must then be approved by the Executive Director of the Department of Taxation, pursuant to NRS 350.087, et seq.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council adopt the Resolution, dependent upon approval of financing from the Nevada Department of Taxation.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments:

MTO Resolution

Axon Second Amendment

MTO Presentation