



City Commission Agenda Item

Meeting Date: August 16th, 2022
From: Eric Burr, Chief of Police
Item: Purchase of Body Worn Camera System

Purpose: Consider a Resolution authorizing the City of Arkansas City, to enter a contract with Utility, Inc., Decatur, GA, for twenty-seven (27) body worn cameras with an upfront fee not to exceed \$54,000 for 2022, and \$150,000 over 5-years. **(Voice Vote)**

Background:

The Arkansas City Police Department has researched the replacement of their current body worn camera platform which has become antiquated and unserviceable. A committee of department members were tasked with researching at least three options. As a result, the committee and Police Chief Eric Burr recommend entering a contract with Utility Body Worn Solutions for an amount not to exceed \$54,000 for 2022, and \$150,000 over 5-years. A federal grant recently acquired through the American Rescue Plan Act will be applied in the amount of \$25,000 and previously budgeted funds make up the remainder for the associated cost for 2022. The proposed budget for these line items have already been requested for 2023.

The recommendation bid is the highest of the three, however, staff finds the greatest difference in how the Utility Body Worn Camera is mounted in a fashion that will not detach during great physical strain as seen in foot pursuits, running in the direction of critical incidents, or becoming involved in physical altercations. Technology benefits include activation of camera when an officer's gun is removed from the holster and officer down alerts that activate when the camera is in a horizontal position which automatically sound an officer down alert to other active cameras then dispatch with a location of the downed officer. The system is also capable of livestreaming to show exactly what has happened to the officer giving live updates to responding officers and paramedics. Additionally, the system utilizes cloud storage of data in contrast to on-site server storage. The data from a recorded incident is immediately uploaded to cloud storage when in range of the Rocket IoT (installed in each patrol car and the department building) which transfers real time data and makes the files viewable, near immediately. This feature is in contrast with the current platform that requires docking and long periods of downloading before viewing data. The cloud storage enables the department to share discovery items with prosecutors in a much more effective and efficient manner than burning disks. The department plans to replace mobile recording units currently found in patrol cars with the Utility product as they outfit new police vehicles to achieve a level of consistency on the platform. The lease program will cover all damaged cameras with replacements and software updates free of charge throughout the lifetime of the contract.

Commission Options:

1. Approve the Resolution
2. Disapprove the Resolution
3. Table the Resolution for further consideration

Fiscal Impact:

Amount: \$54,000

Fund: **01-General Fund** Department: **421-Police** Expense Code: **7405-Machinery/Equipment**

☒ Included in budget

☐ Grant

☐ Bonds

☐ Other Not Budgeted

Approved for Agenda by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Frazer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Randy Frazer, City Manager