



REQUEST FOR ACTION CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 11/21/2023
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Police

Agenda Item: Approve Purchase of Canine Shuri and Misc. Equipment from City of Nisswa

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

In late September of 2023 the police department posted a job opening position to fill the vacancy created with the retirement of Officer Chad Visser. That process culminated in the conditional offer being made to Conner Collette. The offer was pending medical, psychological and background checks. All three checks have been completed and no issues were found regarding this hire. Collette, currently a K9 officer with the City of Nisswa, has submitted his letter of resignation and given his two-week notice to the City of Nisswa on November 13th, 2023.

The City of Baxter expressed interest to the City of Nisswa in the purchase of canine Shuri if Nisswa Police were no longer going to sustain a K9 team. The City of Nisswa expressed interest in working out a sale and the final proposal included the purchase of canine Shuri and several pieces of related equipment.

City staff are looking for approval to move ahead with this purchase.

There will be two significant costs related to this purchase. First, the canine and equipment that we purchase from the City of Nisswa will be at a total cost of \$13,000. The second cost incurred will be to upgrade a squad to a K9 unit. That increased cost will be \$10,000.

Both of those costs will be accounted for using forfeiture fund dollars. This is an appropriate use, and we have sufficient funds available.

Year-to-year ongoing costs to add a K9 team will be minimal. Officer Collette has prior arrangements for the donation of both veterinarian services and food. Officer Collette has confirmed that those arrangements will continue if the canine is purchased by the City of Baxter.

With the policy change in our Canine Policy earlier this year we no longer provide maintenance pay through wage expenses; compensation is now provided in time so there is no increase in costs associated with wages.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The initial purchase of the canine and related equipment will be \$13,000. The upgrade improvements to the squad will be \$10,000. Both costs will be paid using forfeiture dollars. Additional yearly costs to the K9 budget should be less than \$500 per year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff is recommending the purchase of Canine Shuri along with related equipment from the City of Nisswa and approving the addition of the K9 team to the police department.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Motion to Approve the Purchase of Canine Shuri and Related Equipment From the City of Nisswa.