

Staff Report

SUBJECT:	Report from City Staff Regarding the Execution of Non-Consensual Towing Services Agreements
DATE	February 16, 2021
FROM:	Sean Thuilliez, Chief of Police
TO:	City Council

Background and Analysis:

The Beaumont Police Department currently uses the California Highway Patrol (CHP) tow rotation list of eight tow companies. City generated towing services include towing for traffic collisions, vehicle violations, investigations, evidence in criminal cases, arrests, abandoned or illegally stored vehicles in the public right-of-way, etc.

By using CHP's contract for towing services when the Beaumont Police Department initiates a call for service there is no control over which tow company the City conducts business with and, further, there is an inability to hold the same tow companies accountable if there are any violations of law, municipal code or the towing agreement. Violations may include response time, equipment violations, misconduct of employees or staff and criminal activity.

On December 6, 2016, City Council approved Ordinance 1078, adding section 5.51 Rotational Non-Consensual Towing Services to the Beaumont Municipal Code. Section 5.51.060 (a) instructs the Chief of Police to post a request for proposals. Section 5.51.060 (a) authorizes the Chief of Police to select one or more qualified towing companies as authorized towing contractors in accordance with the procedures set forth in the rules and specifications.

The request for proposal for non-consensual towing services was posted on December 7, 2020, and closed at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 28, 2020. The Chief of Police received responses from the following five local tow companies: Stagecoach Towing, Statewide Towing, D&S Towing, M&M Towing, and Dom's Towing. Each tow company met the minimum standards and were selected for use as non-consensual towing companies. Each company is now included in a City of Beaumont tow rotation list. Only those companies on the list will be called by the Beaumont Police Department.

Fiscal Impact:

The associated costs for inspection and background checks are offset by the towing applicant through the application fee currently set by the City.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file. Under Beaumont Municipal Code 5.51.080, the Chief of Police has the authority to execute towing services on behalf of the City.

Attachments:

- A. Tow Service Agreement
- B. Request for Proposals