
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Information Technology

FROM: James Grommersch, Chief Technology Officer

MEETING: April 17, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of a five year contract with Solid Border for the purchase of Firewall Licensing through a cooperative purchasing agreement with the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) in the amount not to exceed \$162,979.63 (*Staff Contact: James Grommersch, Chief Technology Officer, IT*)

SUMMARY:

The Central Square CAD software requires a significant technological backbone to utilize the application and exceeds the server and network capacity available within the city's existing IT infrastructure. Consequently, as part of the CAD project, there are required hardware, networking, and software costs associated with the system's implementation. Portions of the additional components will be placed in the existing Police Department data center and will house the new production environment for the CAD system. Other components will be placed at a new third data center, located at the city service center, which will serve as a fail over for City Hall and Police production data, as well as the production environment for the future Intelligent Traffic System (ITS).

Central Square provided the city with pricing to purchase the hardware and networking equipment necessary to run the system as part of their proposal. BTX-IT compared the Central Square pricing with vendors through the cooperative purchasing agreement with the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) and found better hardware and licensing components pricing, with superior maintenance warranties. BTX-IT recommends purchasing the equipment through independent third parties rather than directly through Central Square. As a result, there are various items from multiple cooperative pricing vendors that accompany the CAD software contract which will provide the necessary infrastructure to support the system.

As part of the Next Generation Network improvements that were approved by Council on June 20th, 2022, two Firewalls had been purchased for Data Center Sites one and two. Those replacements have allowed BTX-IT the ability to repurpose the previous firewalls that operate at a modular speed and one of those firewalls will now be utilized at the proposed CAD data center. Due to already owning the hardware only proper licensing is required to be purchased, which this item provides authorization for. Once ITS goes live BTX-IT anticipates needing a larger firewall

to secure the additional needed bandwidth. That firewall will be included with the implementation of the ITS system.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve the minute order with Solid Border
- 2) Deny the contract

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider approval of a five year contract with Solid Border for the purchase of Firewall Licensing through a cooperative purchasing agreement with the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) in the amount not to exceed \$162,979.63

FISCAL IMPACT:

Budgeted Y/N: Y

Fund Name: Support Services Fund

Full Account #: 6108001-70030

Amount: \$162,979.63

STAFF CONTACT:

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