Public Safety & Court Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police

FROM: **Billy Cordell, Chief of Police**

MEETING: **June 18, 2025**

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide recommendations to the city council on Axon's new Artificial Intelligence (AI) products and services they are offering as part of a new 10-year contract. *(Staff Contact: Chief Billy Cordell, Chief of Police)*

SUMMARY:

The Burleson Police Department (BPD) began using Axon AI in the fall of 2023 with the implementation of Axon In-car and Body Worn Cameras (BWC). Part of that implementation was the transcription module that transcribes the videos to text and the Axon redaction software that removes identifying information such as faces and license plates from video. With the success of these AI modules, BPD desires to expand its AI use by subscribing to the Axon AI Era plan. With this new offering from Axon, BPD would get access to the following modules, plus any additional AI modules over the life of the 10-year contract:

- **Draft One**
  - Generates a "first draft" (template) of an incident report based off the transcripts already created in the system
  - Customizable to how much assistance it provides and will not hallucinate
- **Real-Time Language Translation**
  - Detects more than 50 spoken languages in real-time on the BWC device and provides translation services allowing officers in the field to communicate with others not speaking English
- **Policy Chat**
  - Verbally access accurate policy and procedure information in the field from the BWC or through an app on the employee's city-issued cellphone
- **Smart Detection**
  - Speeds up evidence review by finding and following human forms in video
- **Smart Capture**
  - Extracts key data from an image such as driver licenses and license plates and uses the data to produce insight

- **Brief One**
  - Analyzes all digital media (videos, pictures, pdfs) related to an investigation and produces a summary and index

- **Form One**
  - Uses information gained from video transcripts to complete commonly needed forms
- **Axon Performance with AI**
  - Analysis video and flags escalating and de-escalating events for training and supervisor review

Further, the "Unlimited Premium with VR" 10-year plan also includes a "hive" of three drones as part of Axon's, "Drones as First Responder" program. With this setup, drones are stored in environmentally protected docks on a roof top ready to launch within 20 seconds, allowing drones to get on scene prior to officer arrival. The drones are fully autonomous and use built-in AI to navigate terrain and obstacles. They are made in America and have low-light/FLIR capability with cellular-based connectivity. With the use of the Dedrone radar and camera system, the drone can travel Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) and automatically deconflict airspace between manned and unmanned aircraft. The drones can be controlled remotely (pilot at home) or by on-duty part 107 FD or PD pilots. The Dedrone system allows the drones to operate up to 400 ft and around Spinks airport. It also can locate and track rogue or unauthorized drones and can pinpoint the exact location where a pilot is operating a rogue drone from. The Dedrone system comes with fixed mounted radar, RF sensors, and camera equipment along with a mobile trailer equipped with the same equipment for deployment at special events.

Also included in the offer from Axon is the full suite of Virtual Reality (VR) based training. The package contains four VR headsets, four handgun controllers, four Taser 10 controllers, and four tablets. The VR package includes hundreds of role-based scenarios to hone officer skills in Taser and handgun use, rapid decision-making, and empathy and de-escalation tactics.

In addition to the VR system, the package includes the Fusus Pro+ Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) software, My90 communication platform, and Signal Sidearm sensor system. The Fusus software combines multiple data and camera streams into a single pane for enhanced real-time situational awareness. It features advanced AI and analytics integration to detect threats and analyze video data efficaciously. The My90 solution is a communication platform that automatically engages customers with post-contact surveys, automated messaging with call-status updates, community engagement, and employee surveys. The Signal Sidearm device is a sensor that activates the users BWC when their handgun is removed from its holster.

Further, an Axon representative will be onsite to perform live demonstrations of products discussed along with answering any questions. Early adopter, discounted pricing can be locked in if the city manager signs the quote prior to June 30, 2025. Since the city's master agreement with Axon contains a non-appropriation clause, procurement would not be binding unless authorized and allocated in the F26 budget. If funded, the first payment would not be due till F26. Additionally, the ARPA funds not used in the Central Square public safety CAD/RMS software project may provide an alternate form of financing for this procurement.

RECOMMENDATION:

Not applicable

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

City Council Input: July 6, 2023, July 24, 2023, August 15, 2023. City Council Regular Meeting August 21, 2023, September 9, 2024, October 21, 2024, and May 19, 2025.

City of Burleson is in the second year of a five-year service BWC agreement for the PD with Axon Enterprises, Inc.

REFERENCE:

CSO#5190-08-2023

FISCAL IMPACT:

Proposed Expenditure/Revenue: Expenditure $5,593,685.83 over 10 years
Account Number(s): 6108001-63506; 1012001-50101; 1012201-61516; 1014004-61510
Fund:
Account Description: Software M&R; Overtime; Minor Computer Software; Minor Apparatus

STAFF CONTACT:

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