



Staff Report – Consent Agenda

December 19, 2022 - Council Regular Meeting

Axon Enterprises, Inc. Camera Systems Contracts (Submitted Mitch Lackey)

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BACKGROUND: The City of Camas has sought two quotes for camera systems for the police department from AXON Enterprises, Inc. One system would add dash mounted cameras to the police patrol cars. The second system would install audio and video recording equipment in the police facility interview rooms. Both systems were included in the Mayor’s 2023 budget that was passed by City Council on December 5, 2022.

SUMMARY: In 2021 the police department purchased body worn cameras from AXON to help improve public trust in law enforcement and to help facilitate several new laws that passed in the state of Washington surrounding recording police functions. In the coming budget cycle, we hope to build on the recording capabilities of the body worn cameras by adding dash mounted cameras in our patrol cars, a service also offered by AXON called Fleet3. Patrol car cameras add clarity to law enforcement activities by showing more context of police interactions with the public. They can also be a great aid in assisting in the management of situations involving civil liability.

AXON contract Q-434929-44895.802KH is attached. The contract is for a 60-month lease of the equipment necessary to outfit our 12 marked patrol vehicles.

In 2022, the police department’s audio/video recording system inside the police facility building stopped functioning. The IT Department examined it and determined that the technology was too old and could not be repaired. Many of the interrogations that are done by law enforcement must be recorded with a system of enough quality for the court to make critical case determinations. Some of these requirements are captured in state law. As such, we needed to find a replacement system for the facility’s interview room recording systems. AXON engineers, working with City of Camas IT and Police Department staff prepared a quote that was acceptable to the City. Their interview room recording system will fully integrate with recordings made by the body worn and dash cameras. This single coordinated source for all of our video case evidence assists staff, prosecutors and court personnel who use the police created videos.

AXON contract Q-339173-44897.909KH is attached. The contract is for a 60-month lease of the equipment necessary to install the equipment in the police facility.

Both camera systems are several months out on projected installations of new orders.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS: What are the desired results and outcomes for this agenda item? This item be placed on the consent agenda for the December 19, 2022 Regular Meeting.

How have communities been engaged? Are there opportunities to expand engagement? This item was discussed at the December 5, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Who will benefit from or be burdened by this agenda item? The community will benefit. Law enforcement video recordings have been associated with helping to build trust through transparency of police actions.

What are the strategies to mitigate any unintended consequences? N/A

Does this agenda item have a differential impact on underserved populations, people living with disabilities, and/or communities of color? Please provide available data to illustrate this impact. No.

Will this agenda item improve ADA accessibility for people with disabilities? No.

What potential hurdles exists in implementing this proposal (include both operational and political)? There are some additional expenses that are necessary to build out on the city side (new servers) in order for the police facility camera system to work.

How will you ensure accountability, communicate, and evaluate results? N/A

How does this item support a comprehensive plan goal, policy or other adopted resolution? This helps to implement several requirements passed into law by the Washington State Legislature concerning recording of police actions.

BUDGET IMPACT: \$231,706.18 as listed on the contracts.

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the Mayor to sign the AXON contracts for the Camas Police Department camera systems.