



City of Eustis

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TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: TOM CARRINO, CITY MANAGER

DATE: June 20, 2024

RE: Resolution Number 24-50: Purchase in Excess of \$50,000 for Event Sound & Lighting

Introduction:

Resolution Number 24-50 approves a purchase in excess of \$50,000 for event sound and lighting as well as a revamped Ferran Park sound system.

Background:

The Events Department has received feedback regarding the quality of our Ferran Park sound system on numerous occasions. Unfortunately, when we do not have a professional sound engineer and equipment on site, the events can be difficult to hear and understand. In an effort to improve this we sought advice to not only improve the overall quality, but to ensure the system is user friendly. Smaller events do not require a professional on site, but need adequate sound to ensure a quality product is provided.

Additionally, in the spirit of improving and upgrading our annual events, our team is committed to providing higher caliber entertainment for our 2024 Hometown Celebration. Traditionally a local cover band has been a part of this celebration. However, this year we will have 5 Time Las Vegas Entertainer of the Year Frankie Moreno on the bandshell stage. With over 6,000 individuals historically in attendance, we are excited to provide world class entertainment for all to enjoy. With great weather, we plan to increase attendance to over 7,500.

The team at Go-Backline has provided top-notch sound for our annual Georgefest Celebration for several years. In 2024, after a formal bidding process, we entered into a 3-year agreement with the company. Their experience on the unique bandshell coupled with their warehouse of equipment nearby ensures that an equipment failure never stops the show. The agreement with Go-Backline for Georgefest totaled \$43,500.

Go-Backline staff, who have been on-site for both our Georgefest celebration and Light Up Eustis, have put together a plan to improve and streamline the public address system in Ferran Park. This plan will not only make the use of the overhead speakers user friendly, but will additionally give us a quick microphone system for use on stage. During smaller events when it is not necessary to have an extensive sound package and accompanying engineers, our team will be able to efficiently set up a microphone connected to both bandshell speakers and the public address system. This custom fabricated system will address current concerns and blackouts we have experienced on multiple occasions. The cost of this system is \$14,614.97.

Go-Backline will also provide a sound, backline, and lighting package for our upcoming Hometown Celebration. The team at Go-Backline has been instrumental in assisting with entertainment selection as they assist with reviewing group requirements prior to any offers being offered. They have provided cost estimates and professional advice regarding the feasibility of hosting acts and quality expected on the historic bandshell stage. The show on July 5 will include an 8-piece band. As the group is flying in, Go-Backline will also be providing the backline for the group. The cost of this event is \$14,906.25.

The original contract (\$43,500) plus the cost of these two additional services (\$14,614.97 + \$14,906.25 = \$29,521.22) will now total \$73,021.22, which is over the \$50,000 administrative purchase threshold.

Recommended Action:

The Events & Tourism Department recommends proceeding with the Ferran Park upgrade and the professional support at the Hometown Celebration.

Budget/Staff Impact:

The Events Department has sufficient funds in their annual budget to accommodate the additional Hometown Celebration expense.

City Manager, Tom Carrino, has worked with our Finance Department to confirm available funds for the system upgrades.

Prepared By:

Miranda Muir

Reviewed By:

Tom Carrino