

Memo

To: Mayor Hall

From: Sanya Vitale

cc: City Council

Date: 3/21/23

Re: Ambulance Services

As you are aware, our contract with Pride Care Ambulance Services ended at the end of February. It is included in your pack for review.

Per the agreement, at the end of the 5-year agreement we have 90 days to negotiate new services or to decide to decline services or we continue for an additional 5 years.

Last month, Council approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals for ambulance services.

This RFP was sent to Life EMS, VBEMS, Pride Care EMS and Medic 1 EMS as well as posted. Responses are due back Friday March 24. As of the writing of this memo, we have received one response to the RFP.

Since we issued the RFP, VBEMS approached the City of Hartford about their inability to respond to the RFP in a timely manner due to belonging to the Bronson hospital system and needing at least 60-days to respond. They expressed interest in providing service but suggested that Hartford consider working with another provider for the short-term (6 months) until VBEMS could prepare for service expansion.

VBEMS also called a meeting of several (six) municipalities and discussed the idea of these communities joining together for an Ambulance Authority of sorts. The Mayor attended this meeting as the City Manager had a conflict. Per Dr. Dommer the COO of Bronson and owner of VBEMS, they are exploring their capabilities at this time and will reach back out to our municipal partner in Bangor once they have more information.

Recommendation: As we are in our 90-day window to negotiate with Pride Care, I am advising that the Council take action to extend their agreement with Pride Care for 6 months with the possibility for an additional 6-month renewal while also allowing ourselves the opportunity to eliminate the agreement with 30-days written notices. I would suggest that we work with legal to create a contract and present it to Pride Care for review and consideration.