City of WHITEWATER	# Council Agenda Item
Meeting Date:	September 15, 2026
Agenda Item:	City of Whitewater Antivirus Software
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BACKGROUND

As ransomware and other threats targeting municipal governments have increased, so has the need for advanced protection for our devices and network. This has prompted a complete review of our endpoint protection.

The City of Whitewater Information Technology Department currently uses ESET Endpoint Protection as its primary antivirus/endpoint detection and response solution. While ESET provides a reliable baseline endpoint protection against Malware, the City Information Technology Department sought demos from two additional vendors to ensure that our endpoints and network are protected in the best way possible.

With that information in mind, Information Technology sought demos from ESET, CrowdStrike and SentinalOne. Renewal quotes for all three vendors were received. We requested that the first year of each quote line up so that our renewal occurs in January 2028, forgoing a cost to the 2027 budget. The quotes were as follows:

- ESET - (15 months) $34,389.25
- SentinelOne - (16 months) $29,969.88, (40 months) $69,641.54
- CrowdStrike - (16 months) $34,135.55, (40 months) $81,577.61

Our previous 3-year cost for ESET was $41,649.80. However, as you can see above, they are significantly increasing their costs for the same level of service.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Approved for Consent Agenda in Finance Committee

FINANCIAL IMPACT

CrowdStrike 3-year quote for $81,577.61. Year 1 (2026) - $34,135.55; Year 2 (2028) - $23,721.03; Year 3 (2029) - $23,721.03

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation is to move from ESET Endpoint Protection to CrowdStrike Falcon Complete. CrowdStrike was chosen based on their technical expertise, wide adoption among public sector clients and offering full cycle remediation. Also included with CrowdStrike Falcon Complete is a 1-million-dollar warranty for ransomware-related expenses. While this was not a requirement as we evaluated vendors, it demonstrates CrowdStrike's commitment to its customers, and confidence in their product.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

1. CrowdStrike 3-year quote