



## CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

September 10, 2007

TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager

FROM: Susan A. Leirstein, Purchasing Director  
Charles T. Craft, Police Chief

SUBJECT: Bid Waiver – Replacement of Two Police Canines

### **Background**

- The Troy Police Department K9 Unit is working toward a smooth transition with the replacement of two canines that are coming out of service due to age and health issues. One dog has recently been retired, and the other will be retired in December 2007.
- The Troy Police Department has a long and successful relationship with the Oakland Police Academy K9 Training Center and has the opportunity to have first selection of available dogs.
- All Academy dogs are physically inspected and guaranteed. We have purchased our last three canines from the Academy with very good success.
- Based on our past experience with the Oakland K9 Academy, we expect that the canines will have the proper temperament, the drives necessary for police work, appropriate sociability and ability to be properly trained.
- Dogs are bred in Europe for police and military work. The Oakland K9 Academy has trained nearly 80 dog teams with very good results.
- One replacement dog will be pre-trained in 15-20 different explosive odors. The second dog will be “green” or non-trained, but will receive training from Officer Mark Cole (experienced handler) during available patrol time, weekly training days and his free time at home.
- We expect both dogs to be in service by December 2007.

### **Financial Considerations**

- Funds are available in the Drug Forfeiture Account #401305.7978.065.
- The cost for a Patrol/Explosives Dog (Tracking/Explosives) is \$10,000.00, which includes a pre-trained dog and all of the equipment needed for the K9 team. This price includes 200 hours of subsequent training, after which the K9 team will be certified by MCOLES and NAPCH (National Association of Professional Canine Handlers).

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**Financial Considerations** – continued

- The cost of a “Green” dog is \$5,500.00. This purchase will be arranged for us by the Academy through their importer. This will result in a \$4,500.00 savings in the purchase/tuition price, and also 200 hours of additional payroll training time.
- Using this local vendor results in further savings, as there will be no travel, per diem or hotel expenses for canine purchase or subsequent training.

**Legal Considerations**

- There are no legal considerations associated with this item.

**Policy Considerations**

- Enhance the livability and safety of the community (Goal I).

**Options**

- City management is requesting a waiver of the formal bid process and a contract approved with Oakland Police Academy for the purchase of two police canines (16 to 24 months of age) at an estimated cost of \$15,500.00, to replace canines to be retired due to age and health issues.