

August 16, 2005

TO: John Szerlag, City Manager

FROM: Jeanette Bennett, Purchasing Director
Charles Craft, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item** – Sole Source– In Car Camera And Radar Equipment Parts
And Service

RECOMMENDATION

The Police Department requests City Council approval to establish a contract to service and purchase parts in order to maintain our radar units and fleet of in-car video systems installed in Police Department Patrol vehicles from the manufacturer, Decatur Electronics of Decatur, Illinois at an estimated annual cost of \$25,000.00 per year. All services received and parts purchased by the Troy Police Department from Decatur Electronics is at the same rates (dealer) they would charge any authorized service center. The hourly service rate is \$65.00 per hour.

BACKGROUND

The Troy Police Department has been using an in-car video system to record traffic stops, emergency and non-emergency calls for approximately eight years. When the system was purchased, it was done through a company called ID Control. Decatur Electronics then purchased ID Control shortly after the City purchased the camera systems. ID Control's sole product was a 8mm in-car video system. Decatur Electronics has made several updates and improvements to this video system over the years and the Troy Police Department has updated the original system as much as possible using factory trained in-house personnel. The video systems require a modified 8mm video recorder, which is only modified and serviced through Decatur Electronics. Due to the age of the systems and the fact that our systems cannot be updated to current standards, the systems sometimes require service that may only be performed at the factory. The equipment was originally purchased as a sole source.

The Troy Police Department also exclusively uses Decatur radar units for the enforcement of speed related laws. The Department has found these units to be reliable and cost effective. The Department has also found that dealing with one manufacturer of radar units helps eliminate questions regarding training on multiple units in court cases. Decatur Electronics also extends to us dealer pricing on repairs to these units, also at \$65.00 per hour.

BUDGET

The Police Department has allocated funds for this project in Account #315.7802.070.