



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

201 Delafield Street, Waukesha, WI 53188
 Tel: 262.524.3701 fax: 262.524.3899
 www.ci.waukesha.wi.us

Committee: ID#17-1601 Finance	Date: November 1, 2017
Common Council Item Number: ID#17-1601	Date: November 7, 2017
Submitted By: Steve Howard, Fire Chief	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BR
Subject: Review and act on a request to allow the Fire Department to follow the informal bid process for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatuses as allowed by financial policy F6.2.1 and to award the purchase to the lowest qualified bidder that meets the bid specifications.	

Details:
 As part of the approved 2017-2018 capital improvement budget, the fire department has been authorized funds to replace our existing self-contained breathing apparatuses. Battalion Chief Jim Hakkenson was assigned to create a work group to evaluate manufacturers and make a recommendation for the specifications and purchasing of the replacement safety equipment. Over the past 10 months, the work group has met with major manufacturers, watched their presentations, conducted in-station wear tests, attended trade shows and conducted a department-wide evaluation of the preferred breathing apparatus. The evaluations included face fit-testing and evaluations conducted at our training facilities and in live fire conditions at WCTC's training facilities. Representatives of the work group contacted departments who have recently purchased selected breathing apparatuses and had meetings with factory representatives regarding any possible concerns identified in the reference checks.

Based on the comprehensive study, the work group has selected the MSAG1 Breathing Apparatus to replace our existing equipment. This breathing apparatus has a 15-year warranty; the committee feels very strongly that the purchase be made through a vendor within the region. The committee has identified that they can solicit three bids from regional vendors and that MSA factory incentives will be provided to ensure a competitive price and value for the city. The department will work with the finance department to evaluate the informal bids and will award the purchase to the vendor with the lowest cost that meets the specifications developed by the department. Fire department representatives will be present at the finance committee meeting to answer any questions or provide additional information.

Options & Alternatives:
 Options and Alternatives were evaluated during the comprehensive study. MSAG1 is the best option for the safety of our firefighters.



Financial Remarks:

The funding for this purchase was provided for in 3 phases, \$250,000 per year from 2017-2019. This request applies to the 2017 and 2018 approved capital projects in account 2242.68290 for a total of \$500,000. The purchase will most likely be made in January of 2018 and will complete Phase 1 and 2 of the replacement project.

Executive Recommendation:

The City Administrator is in support of utilizing the informal bid process for this purchase.