



DARIEN POLICE



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POLICE COMMITTEE
December 19, 2022
Rescheduled Meeting Minutes
Police Department Training Room
1710 Plainfield Road

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. in attendance were Chairman Kenny, Aldermen Chlystek and Alderman Vaughan and Chief Thomas.

2. Public Comment and Communications

There was no public comment or communications.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the July 18, 2022 meeting

Alderman Chlystek motioned to approve the minutes seconded by Alderman Vaughan. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the June 20, 2022 meeting

There was a correction made on the minutes from June 20, 2022 meeting. The minutes were resubmitted and unanimously approved.

5. Agenda Memo – A resolution authorizing the purchase of Tasers, Body Worn Cameras and In-Car Cameras

Chief Thomas advised that he is asking for three items under a 5-year budget. The department Tasers are at the end of their life and need to be replaced. Axon bundles Tasers, Body Worn Cameras and In-Car cameras into a 5-year package with very good pricing. Chief asked Mr. Vana today if everything was okay with this process and he said yes. Chief also received an email from City Attorney John Murphey regarding this contract stating that no obligation to Axon, form okay to bring to City Council for approval tonight. Axon is the only vendor who sells Tasers and for this reason they are a sole source. Chief briefed the committee on the features of all three products. Under the Safe-T-Act the department is mandated by state statute to use body worn cameras by January 1, 2025. Chief believes we should implement them earlier. Chief stated that many companies manufacture body worn cameras, but he would only consider two companies Axon and WatchGuard because we have a relationship with both. Chief said he would discount WatchGuard and explained to the committee his reasons for this decision and

the issues that we have had with the company's product that we use. Axon has very good software with excellent redaction capabilities and plenty of storage. The replacement of the Tasers was budgeted for this year and will come out of budgeted funds. The body worn cameras will come out of Equitable Sharing funds. The department will also apply for a grant which will pay 50% of the cost if awarded. IRMA also has a \$10,000 reimbursement grant that will be applied for after the purchase is made. The server for the in-car cameras is starting to fail as well as some of the cameras so the department will need to replace them too. The in-car cameras purchase cost will come out of budgeted funds. Due to supply chain issues the cameras won't be available for another 10-12 months. Alderman Kenny asked if the current failing cameras are compromising the officer's ability to do their jobs. Chief advised that we are able to swap out different squads if one camera is not working. Alderman Vaughan asked if Axon will provide training for officers with the new body worn cameras and how to download the software. Chief confirmed Axon will provide training and the cameras will automatically download the software when the officers place their cameras in the station's charging dock at the end of shift.

Alderman Kenny asked for a motion to approve. Alderman Vaughan motioned to approve seconded by Alderman Chlystek. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. **Next Meeting Date – January 16, 2023**

7. **Adjournment**

Alderman Vaughan motioned to adjourn seconded by Alderman Chlystek. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Alderman: _____
Thomas Chlystek

Chairman: _____
Joseph Kenny

Alderman: _____
Lester Vaughan