

Great Falls Fire Rescue Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Replacement Project
Stephen A. Hester, Fire Chief
Great Falls Fire Rescue
Stephen A. Hester
Approve Purchase

## Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

"I move that the City Commission (approve/reject) the purchase of 45 new SCBA Breathing Apparatus in the amount of \$331,872.41 from Big Sky Fire Equipment of Great Falls through HGAC (Houston-Galveston Area Council) Cooperative Purchasing Group."

2. Mayor requests a second to the motion, Commission discussion, public comment, and calls for the vote.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the City Commission approve the purchase of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for GFFR from Big Sky Fire Equipment for a total of \$331,872.41.

**Summary:** The City applied for and was awarded a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant that will pay 90% or \$298,685.17 of the cost to replace all 45 of the fire department's SCBA to include providing each firefighter with their own separate face mask. The current SCBA's are well past the recommended replacement schedule and need to be replaced. The City's match is 10% or \$33,187.24. The City Commission approved the grant award during the May 17, 2016 meeting. The bid process was conducted using Houston-Galveston Area Council Buy (HGAC) allowing a single local vendor to provide the best price for the new SCBA's.

## **Background:**

Significant Impacts

- This project shall replace all 45 of the department's SCBA to include providing each firefighter with their own separate face mask.
- All of the current SCBA's are 12 years old and no longer meet current safety standards.

- The cost of maintaining this equipment is greater than their worth. According to National Standards SCBA's should be replaced at 10 years in order to keep up with current safety standards and because the older the air pack, the greater the possibility of failure in an extremely dangerous fire environment.
- The new SCBA's have important upgrades that improve safety and overall equipment performance. The new SCBA's will improve firefighter safety by integrating new technology and face pieces (the weakest point in our personal protective equipment) that are made of most durable, heat resistant material available.

## Evaluation and Selection Process

An Ad Hoc committee tested five SCBA from the leading manufacturers. All members were encouraged to rigorously test each model and provide their feedback to the committee. Each member who did so filled out a check sheet that rated each Air Pack on several different criteria and submitted their recommendations to the committee. Score sheets were tabulated giving each an air pack numeric rating. The committee met and determined which air pack would best serve GFFR based on the numeric rating.

On November 3, 2015 the City Commission approved a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with HGAC. The HGAC Cooperative Purchasing Group is over 30 years old and has over 58 members in the Pacific Northwest alone. The group has significant group purchasing capability to negotiate favorable pricing. The HGAC Cooperative utilizes a competitive bidding process that meets Montana State MCA section 7-5-4302 procurement standards and requirements.

Participation in the program allows the City to get the best price on equipment based on the buying power of HGAC. The purchasing group is better able to negotiate lower prices than any single member based on economies of scale and up front pricing discounts. The City also receives the exact equipment as specified from a manufacturer of their choice. Utilizing this program reduces the workload of City staff in the time and effort associated with bid/proposal process.

## Fiscal Impact:

The total cost of the SCBA replacement is \$331,872.41. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant shall pay 90% of the cost or \$298,685.17 and per the grant agreement the City will pay a 10% match of the total cost or \$33,187.24. This match has been budgeted and will be paid for out of the General Fund.

Alternatives: Reject the purchase

**Concurrences:** The Assistance to Firefighter Grant Award No. EMW-2015-FO-02413 was approved by the City Commission on May 17, 2016.

Attachments/Exhibits: Big Sky Fire Equipment Invoice HGAC Contract Pricing Worksheet

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	Moline, Inc.				
	dba BIG SKY FIRE EQUIP	MENT	17	255	
406-5		Tax ID #84 State	x ID #84-1367277 State Certified Lic. L00029		
NAME	Great Falls Fire + Rescue				
ADDRESS	105 9th Street South				
	Great Fells, MT 59401				
	·				
P.O. NO.	TERMS CHAR GE Now Ship	DATE	DATE 12-28-16		
SALESMAN		LIVERED	,		
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	Propèce		ļ		
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<u>    4                                </u>	Rechargeable Battery Charging Station	47500	1900	<u>~</u>	
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Received	i by				

TERMS: All accounts are due in 30 days from the date of this statement. A finance charge of 11/2% per month (18% per year with a mininum charge of \$1.00) will be added on unpaid balances. Printed by News-Argus Printing, Lewistown, MT

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HGACBUY CONTRACT PRICING WORKSHEET For Standard Equipment Purchases					Contract No.:	EE08-15	Date Prepared:	11/14/2016
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Buying Agency:	Great Falls Fire and F	Rescue		Contractor:	Big Sky Fire Equipment			
Contact Person:	Steve Hester			Prepared By:	Joe Moline			
Phone:								
Fax: 406-454-2454				Fax:	406-538-8815			
Email:	shester@greatfallsmt.	net		Email:	bsfcaff@midrivers.com			
Product	Des	cription: MSA G1 SCB	A & G1 Accesso	ories		······································		
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E. Other Chi		vances, Discounts, Etc.						
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