

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM

Date: March 1, 2021
To: Michael Bartholomew, City Manager
From: Daniel Anderson, Fire Chief *DA*
Subject: Annual Turnout Gear Purchase

Issue: The Fire Department evaluates the need to replace turnout gear on an ongoing basis. The evaluation typically results in the need to replace multiple sets of gear each year based on its age and level of use consistent with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1851 Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting. Evaluation and replacement of turnout gear is conducted annually to maintain personnel safety. The FY2021 budget includes funding for the purchase of replacement gear purchases consistent with annual needs or required replacement.

Analysis: The Fire Department has an established turnout gear specification so that all personnel are wearing the same level and type of protective equipment. The Fire Department specification is manufactured by Honeywell and includes their Morning Pride patented products. W. S. Darley & Company located in Itasca is the regional authorized distributor of turnout gear for Honeywell.

Evaluation of alternate sources for turnout gear were investigated. The Houston Galveston Area Cooperative (HGAC) does have a vendor for Honeywell gear but is located in Texas which makes it difficult to get personnel sized and conflicts with the regional authorized Honeywell distributor. W. S. Darley & Company has offered pricing consistent or lower than the HGAC authorized vendor and their pricing is consistent with previous purchases by the City taking into account for inflation or annual cost increases.

W. S. Darley quoted a price of \$2,142.44 per set of Honeywell Morningpride Gear (bunker coat and bunker pants ensemble) meeting the Department's specifications as of this date. I anticipate a 3 to 5 percent general increase in the quote at some point during the year. Shipping costs are determined at the time of shipment and will be added to the invoice after shipment. The Department is anticipating to purchase up to twenty (20) sets of gear and estimated shipping for a total not to exceed \$45,000.00.

Recommendation: I recommend that the City Council waive the bidding process and approve the purchase of Honeywell Morning Pride bunker gear from the regional distributor W.S. Darley & Co. of Itasca, IL for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00. Annual turnout gear purchase and replacements are budgeted expenses from the Fire Department/Emergency Services/Commodities/Equipment < \$5,000.

Attachment: Resolution R – 62 - 21

CITY OF DES PLAINES

RESOLUTION R - 62 - 21

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF
BUNKER GEAR FROM W.S. DARLEY & COMPANY.**

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 10 of the 1970 Illinois Constitution authorizes the City to contract with individuals, associations, and corporations in any manner not prohibited by law or ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City has sufficient funds in the Fire Department's General Fund and the Fire Department's Emergency Services budget within the General Fund for the purchase of ten sets of bunker coats and pants for firefighters ("**Gear**") during the 2021 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, after significant research of prices, including prices offered through joint purchasing cooperatives, the Fire Department obtained a quote from W.S. Darley & Co., of Itasca, Illinois ("**Vendor**") for the Gear that matches the lowest price available from joint purchasing collectives; and

WHEREAS, the City has been satisfied with the quality of merchandise and service the Vendor has provided to date; and

WHEREAS, the Vendor submitted a quote for the Gear in the not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to purchase the Gear from the Vendor at the price proposed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Plaines, Cook County, Illinois, in the exercise of its home rule powers, as follows:

SECTION 1: RECITALS. The foregoing recitals are incorporated into, and made a part of, this Resolution as findings of the City Council.

SECTION 2: WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING. The requirement that competitive bids be solicited for the purchase of the Gear is hereby waived.

SECTION 3: APPROVAL OF PURCHASE. The City Council approves the purchase by the City of the Gear from the Vendor in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000.00.

SECTION 4: AUTHORIZATION OF PURCHASE. The City Council authorizes and directs the City Manager and the City Clerk to execute and seal documents approved by the General Counsel, and the City Manager to make payments, on behalf of the City, that are necessary to complete the purchase of the Gear from the Vendor.

SECTION 5: EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval according to law.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

VOTE: AYES ____ NAYS ____ ABSENT ____

MAYOR

ATTEST:

Approved as to form:

CITY CLERK

Peter M. Friedman, General Counsel

DP-Resolution Approving Purchase of Bunker Gear from WS Darley & Co 2021