



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: JANUARY 19, 2021**

**FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF A REMOTEC ROBOT DIGITAL HYBRID RADIO CONTROL  
PACK ASSEMBLY FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TECHNICAL SERVICES  
UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PURCHASING RESOLUTION NO. 23256  
SECTION 602(N) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,550**

## **ISSUE:**

Approve the purchase of a Remotec Robot Digital Hybrid Radio Control Pack Assembly in the amount \$51,550.00 to assist the Police Department Technical Services Unit using the Riverside Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant award accepted by City Council on December 18, 2018.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council approve a purchase with Remotec, Inc. of Clinton, Tennessee for a Remotec Robot Digital Hybrid Radio Control Pack Assembly in the amount of \$51,550.00.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Department Homeland Security (DHS) offers the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program to enhance regional preparedness high-threat, high-density areas and provides funding opportunities every fiscal year to address the unique multi-discipline planning, operations, equipment, and training needs to these areas as it relates to terrorism prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.

On December 18, 2018, the City Council approved acceptance of the FY 2018 Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) in the amount of \$2,481,000.00, for regional training activities, equipment, staff salaries, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program materials, and Office of Emergency Management Critical infrastructure.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Riverside Police Department (RPD) owns and operates robots (Power Hawk) using the new digital remote-control system. The Power Hawk bomb disassembly tool allows agencies in the region to disassemble pipe bombs, grenades, or similar devices using non-explosive means. Use of the tools means a reduction in the amount of time that a road, mall, or other public areas would need to be shut down for disassembly of IED's and reduced likelihood of devices functioning

during disassembly over other conventional methods used today.

However, only two of the four robots are using this new standard. Due to increasing noise floor of the radio spectrum and security issues, the old analog systems have difficulty performing in built-up areas where Wi-Fi and other devices cause severe interference to the analog systems. Additionally, one of the two older analog systems (over ten years old) is currently inoperable and needs replacement.

The Riverside Police Department is seeking to upgrade for better interoperability among bomb squads and in radio frequency congested environments and would like to purchase the Remotec Digital Radio Control Pack Assembly from Remotec, Inc. in the amount of \$51,500.00. Purchasing from Remotec as a single source avoids any third-party markup and ensures that the equipment is new, in good working order, and is compatible with existing Police Department robots.

Competitive Procurement through the Informal Procurement and Formal Procurement process shall not be required “when the Procurement is for the renewal of maintenance, license(s), support, or a similar need for existing technology systems, including hardware, and the items procured are from the owner/developer of the software/hardware or from a sole source provider, and the Manager is satisfied that the best price, terms and conditions have been negotiated.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommendation complies with the Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 602(n).

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total fiscal impact of the action is \$51,550.00. The funds are available in the UASI FY 2018 account 91640100861-44045300.

Prepared by:	Michael D. Moore, Fire Chief
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Kristi J. Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachment: GSA – Quote ID: RFQ1464250S-WPY