

Monday, February 03, 2003

Honorable Mayor and Members of  
The Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular meeting of  
February 11, 2003

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW RADIO TRANSMITTER  
FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council:

1. Authorize the purchase of a new radio transmitter for the police department from the Motorola Corporation of Schaumburg, Illinois for \$15,443.65 (includes tax and shipping).

**BACKGROUND**

The police department is licensed by the FCC to operate on an UHF frequency. (ultra high frequency). One very important piece of equipment in the operation of this frequency is the transmitter. Though the City of Hermosa Beach contracts with the City of El Segundo for public safety communications, the police and fire departments continue to operate on radio equipment owned and operated by the City of Hermosa Beach.

**ANALYSIS**

The police transmitter is old (approximately 12-15 years old) and obsolete. Our radio maintenance provider, Advanced Electronics has advised us that spare parts for this equipment is no longer manufactured and recommended that we consider purchasing a new transmitter. The current transmitter has been very reliable over these many years considering that it operates constantly 24 hours a day, every day of the year. However, in the past few months, there have been two occasions where components in the transmitter have failed causing a loss of the signal. The most recent occurrence was during the early morning hours of Saturday January 25, 2003.

It is recommended that the City purchase a new transmitter directly from the Motorola Corporation. Motorola offers government favorable pricing and while this equipment could be purchased through an authorized Motorola dealer, Motorola still offers the best price over its dealers. For example, staff obtained an initial quote from our maintenance provider, Advanced Electronics for this equipment. Their price quote was \$17,612.74. Staff recommends that Motorola be considered a sole source vendor for this equipment. The transmitter is a vital piece of the City's public safety communications infrastructure. Staff feels that it

is urgent that this purchase be made as soon as possible considering the problems that have been experienced in recent weeks.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

An amount of \$15,443.65 to be appropriated from the Citizen's Option for Public Safety Fund (COPS) for the purchase of this transmitter. The monies for this purchase were carried over from the prior fiscal year and designated for the purchase of this equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

Concur:

MICHAEL LAVIN, CHIEF OF POLICE  
HERMOSA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

STEPHEN BURRELL  
CITY MANAGER

Fiscal Impact:

Viki Copeland, Finance Director