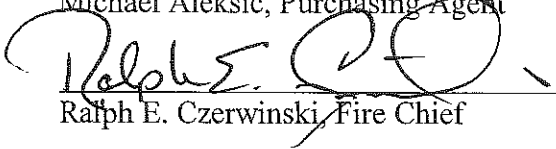


MEMORANDUM
Purchasing Division
Fire Department

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TO: John Lockerby, Village Manager

FROM: 
Michael Aleksic, Purchasing Agent


Ralph E. Czerwinski, Fire Chief

DATE: March 31, 2014

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM – April 23, 2014 Board Meeting
Proprietary Purchase of Fire Safety Gear

Budget & Account Number: #H33068 020-0420-418.07-50 \$36,416

Tabulation:

Air One Equipment, Inc. \$36,080.00

Background:

The department's annual review and evaluation of current protective safety gear has once again determined that Morning Pride brand fire safety gear continues to provide the best combination of thermal protection, breath ability, weight, flexibility, blood born pathogen protection and durability. Morning Pride fire safety gear is the product that best fits the needs of the Skokie Fire Department, and is our standardized brand, which is provided to all sworn members of the department.

Based on industry standards, manufacturer's recommendations and the routine exposure to heat, smoke, and wear and tear, fire safety gear only has a useful life of five years. The FY 2014 CIP budget provides funding for the replacement of sixteen (16) complete sets of firefighter safety gear that was originally purchased in 2009. The current five year CIP program provides for the replacement of nearly one fifth of the entire inventory every year. This annual program allows for a more fiscally responsible approach toward timely replacement, providing each member with fire safety gear that does not exceed five (5) years of useful life. In addition, Morning Pride continues to provide the best fire safety gear which meets the needs of the Skokie Fire Department. It is extremely important that the department maintains a standardization of fire safety gear for each and every member.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that a contract for the purchase of sixteen (16) complete sets of Morning Pride fire safety turnout gear be awarded to Air One Equipment, Inc., South Elgin, Illinois, the sole authorized dealer of Morning Pride gear, in the amount of \$36,080.00. The Village of Skokie Fire Department has previously worked very successfully with Air One Equipment Inc. on numerous safety equipment purchases.

Comments:

Fire safety gear is an integral and necessary component of personal protective equipment worn by all sworn members of the department. Fire safety gear provides personal firefighter protection from the environment encountered while operating at structural firefighting incidents, auto extrications, hazardous material spills, and other associated emergency responses. Manufactured out of the latest fire resistive materials, each set of fire safety gear includes an outer coat, pants, suspenders, uniquely designed outer and inner pockets, knee protection pads and reflective outer markings.

Cc: D/C B. Liss

Capt. S. Ludkowski