

MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

FROM: Brett Talkington, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: City Council Agenda Item for August 21, 2014 – Panasonic ToughPad

DATE: August 8, 2014

INTRODUCTION:

The Police Department would like city council permission to purchase two (2) Panasonic ToughPad Tablet computers along with mounting hardware from Keltek Inc of Baxter, IA. The total cost of this purchase will be \$8,454.95.

BACKGROUND:

In 2008 the department instituted mobile data computers in our squads with a grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation. We currently have ten (10) squads outfitted with equipment for this purpose. Last year we migrated from a laptop to the Panasonic ToughPad computers in eight (8) of the squads. The ToughPad tablets allowed us to free up some room in the smaller squad cars that Ford produced.

The tablet PC's will also work much better with the State of Iowa's initiative to move all citations, reports and charges to an electronically submitted format. We will be required to comply with this initiative within the next six months.

We asked City Council, during the budget preparation, for funding to purchase two new tablet PC's as well as mounting solutions. Funding (\$9000.00) was granted for the 2014/2015 budget year. The remaining \$500 will be used for installation expenses.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

Keltek Inc had the lowest bid for the purchase of this equipment at \$8,454.95. Baycom Inc. had the second lowest bid of \$8,486.00. We are recommending that City Council approve the purchase of the Panasonic ToughPad tablet PC's as well as necessary equipment from Keltek Inc.