

**MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

**FROM:** Brett Talkington, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** City Council Agenda Item for July 11, 2013 – Panasonic ToughPad

**DATE:** July 2, 2013

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**INTRODUCTION:**

The Police Department would like city council permission to purchase Three Panasonic ToughPad Tablet computers along with mounting hardware from Keltek Inc of Baxter, IA. The total cost of this purchase will be \$11,121.66.

**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. We asked City Council, during the budget preparation, for funding to purchase two new laptops (CF-31). Funding (\$9000.00) was granted for the 2013/2014 budget year.

Since the budget request was submitted, Panasonic launched the ToughPad tablet computer (Windows 7) that is manufactured to military spec's similar to the Toughbook laptops. We have had the opportunity to test the tablet PC along with explore mounting options. This tablet will free up room in the new squad cars.

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 year and a half (18 months). Along with the computers we are purchasing new printers for use in the squads for this purpose.

The three current laptop computers will be moved to investigation personnel for their use in the field as well as one computer to be used in the OWI processing room.

**RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:**

Keltek Inc had the second lowest bid for the purchase of this equipment at \$11,121.66. Baycom Inc had the lowest bid of \$10,566.00 but spec'd a ToughPad that had fewer ports integrated into it. The best configuration for our needs was spec'd by Keltek.

We are recommending that City Council approve the purchase of the Panasonic ToughPad tablet PC's as well as necessary equipment from Keltek Inc.

In our 2013/2014 budget we have \$9,000.00 budgeted. The remaining \$2,121.66 will be funded by the 2012 Justice Assistance Grant funding we currently have.

**BACKUP INFORMATION:**