



## CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

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**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2018  
**DEPARTMENT:** SALINAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**FROM:** ROBERTO FILICE, ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF  
**TITLE:** COMBINATION OF EXISTING CONTRACTS AND DIRECT PURCHASE OF AXON BODY WORN CAMERAS AND TASERS

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approve a resolution to:

- 1) Authorize the combination of all existing payment contracts with AXON Enterprise, Inc.
- 2) Authorize the upgrade of existing service plans with AXON Enterprise, Inc. to the "Officer Safety Plan".
- 3) Authorize the direct purchase of additional body worn cameras and Tasers to equip all sworn Police Officers and additional body worn cameras to equip all non-sworn Community Service Officers in the Police Department.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the motion to facilitate a timely procurement and deployment of this critical public safety equipment and data storage services.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Police Department is a current participant in multiple payment contracts with AXON Enterprise, Inc., which provide equipment and digital media evidence data storage collected by the department. The contracts covering the department's body worn cameras and the department's Tasers are of five-year duration. The multiple payment plans, which cover specific equipment, have different terms, conditions and lifespans. Each payment plan has its own payment account with city finance.

Since the Police Department entered the previous contracts, AXON Enterprises, Inc., has new developed pricing programs providing users with unlimited data storage, the latest technology in body worn cameras and Tasers, extended warranty service and equipment upgrades during the life of the plans. The plan selected by Executive staff to meet the needs of is the Officer Safety Plan.

This plan provides unlimited data storage, a body worn camera and a Taser for a monthly fee of \$99.00 per user.

In the pursuit of officer safety, transparency and accountability, the police department's executive staff has identified as a priority equipping all sworn department members with a body worn camera and a Taser. They have similarly identified as a priority equipping all non-sworn Community Service Officers with body worn cameras. They have also identified as a priority that equipment procurement keeps pace with the future growth of the department.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Salinas Police Department currently deploys body worn cameras and Taser conducted electrical weapons purchased from AXON Enterprise, Inc., formerly Taser International. The Department also utilizes three interview rooms with cameras directly linked to Evidence.com for digital media data storage of recorded interviews.

In 2014, the prior police department administration conducted testing and evaluation period of several body worn cameras to determine which model would be best suited for duty with the sworn members of the department. At the end of the testing and evaluation period, the department selected the AXON Body model body worn camera for field personnel deployment.

In 2015, the prior police department administration sought direct purchase of body worn cameras from AXON Enterprises, Inc., formerly Taser International. City Council authorized the department to purchase 70 body worn cameras in early 2015. Authorization to purchase an additional 41 cameras came later the same year when the Police Department went through a re-organization due to staffing. The two acquisitions were made by separate authorizations from City Council and are currently being paid by different accounts in the city budget. Both purchases provided equipment and digital media data storage.

In 2016, the department's Special Operations unit purchased 12 cameras for its Community Service Officers. This was a direct purchase under the dollar threshold requiring council approval. This purchase did not include digital media data storage. Data storage for these cameras was absorbed into existing data plans from the two other contracts.

In 2017, the department's inventory of body worn cameras upgraded, per agreement, to the newest camera model, the AXON Body 2. These new cameras will continue deployment until the end of the contract periods in 2019.

In 2017, the department replaced existing interview room cameras with the AXON Interview system. This was placed on a separate billing account.

The department has 126 body worn cameras in its inventory. All cameras are assigned and currently there are no spares to be issued in the event of loss, damage, or if the camera is returned to AXON for repair or replacement. Several sworn members do not have a body worn camera

assigned to them. Department investigators utilize six of the older camera models because field personnel use the newer models.

Taser weapons have been part of the department inventory since 2003. The most recent model, the X2, entered service in 2016. The purchase came after mid-year budget review for FY 15/16 and based on a council resolution. There are 14 sworn members of the department who are awaiting replacement of their older model X26 Taser to the newer X2 Taser or not equipped with a Taser at the moment. The contract covering this purchase will end in 2021. This contract is paid by a separate city account.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The addition of various AXON technologies to the Police Department has been a positive step forward in protecting the community. Because there are multiple contracts and payment accounts there has been confusion and payment delays. Executive staff is attempting to streamline the billing process for accounts related to AXON products and services. Merging all of the contracts and billing accounts into one will provide the City and the Police Department several advantages. There will be one payment from one account for products and services provided by AXON Enterprises, Inc. The initiation of one new contract, to cover all products and services, will allow for more effective budgeting in the next five years. The new pricing programs will provide enough new equipment to outfit the current staffing level and for future growth toward full staffing. Until full staffing is reached surplus equipment can be utilized on-site for spares and repair replacement units.

#### **CEQA CONSIDERATION:**

***Not a Project.*** The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:**

Approval of this purchase supports the City Council's goal of a Safe, Livable Community with the vision of "police and fire safety systems (staff, facility, equipment, technology) are efficient, effective, and innovative in our City".

#### **DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:**

The move to incorporating all billing accounts under the umbrella of one payment was completed through the collaboration of Police Department staff and the City Finance Department. The cooperation of the City Finance Department was key in determining the viability of this reexamination of the payment and billing accounts with the vendor. Adoption of the recommendations in this report and resolution will increase the interdepartmental efficiency between Police and Finance with respect to accounts held with AXON Enterprise, Inc.

**FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

AXON Enterprise, Inc. provided a detailed price quote and summary of payments broken down over the five-year period of the new contract. Year one of the contract is the most costly due to the addition of new services and new equipment. The remaining four years are consistent in cost. The year-by-year breakdown is below.

PAYMENT	AMOUNT (USD)
Year 1 - 113 Unlimited BWC Licese + Administrative+ Interview Room	\$123,132.97
Year 1 - 57 Users to receive AB2	\$106,900.05
Year 1 - 33 Users to receive X2 + Adding UCP for all	\$41,982.40
Year 1 - Detective Pool	\$28,339.98
Year 2	\$242,589.44
Year 3	\$242,589.44
Year 4	\$242,589.44
Year 5	\$242,589.44
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,270,713.16

This purchase is budgeted for in CIP 9032 using State Supplemental Law Enforcement funding.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution  
Quotations