



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Jason Simpson, City Manager

Prepared by: Lonny Olson, Fire Chief

Date: May 23, 2023

Subject: Purchase of Battery-Operated Extrication Equipment from Western Extrication Specialist, Inc.

Recommendation

Approve the purchase of two sets of new battery-operated extrication equipment from Western Extrication Specialist, Inc. for \$35,641.14.

Background

The City of Lake Elsinore experiences numerous vehicle collisions that often require medical aid to respond to the scene. When the report of a vehicle accident with entrapment is dispatched, the first arriving unit immediately assesses patient care. It ensures no fire or impending danger to the occupant(s). Shortly after these initial steps are taken, a unit carrying equipment, "Jaws of Life," arrives to cut the occupant out of the car, extricating the occupant to safety. Our apparatus in the City of Lake Elsinore Fire Stations 97 and 94 currently carry a portable pump that is rather large and cumbersome, requiring two firefighters to unload and carry it to the scene, then return to grab the tool that will be used. There are times when the collisions cause the occupants to be trapped or impinged inside the vehicle due to the impact's severity, a rollover, or the vehicle rolling down an embankment. Due to this potential, each fire engine is equipped with specific extrication equipment. Often, a fire engine equipped with extricating equipment is committed to other emergencies and cannot respond promptly. To avoid such a situation, City staff requests to equip Medic Squad 10 and Engine 85 with complete extrication tools. The squad vehicle has more flexibility to break away from active calls to respond to collisions. Fire Stations 10 and 85 currently have no extrication equipment for rescuing victims.

Discussion

The equipment proposed for purchase is battery-operated and allows for rapid deployment once at the scene of a trapped victim. It also makes for easy access to victims trapped in a vehicle that has crashed over the side of a hill. Holmatro makes a complete set of Electric (Battery Powered) extrication tools. These new tools perform to the new vehicle technology and are better to use in specific emergencies. These emergencies include vehicles off the roadway where a rope rescue is needed or resting where it is difficult to manage the hydraulic hoses and heavier tools in confined spaces. The battery-operated extrication tools do not require hoses or cords to operate either. This same equipment has previously been procured through the County of Riverside through Western Extrication Specialists. The City can also ensure a price match and equipment consistency throughout the local service area by purchasing through Western Extrication Specialists.

Fiscal Impact

The cost for purchasing the equipment is \$35,641.14 and will be purchased from the Internal Service Fund.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Extrication Equipment Bid Proposal