

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred D. Lott, City Manager

SUBJECT: Waive Bidding for Telephone System Upgrade and Enhanced 911
R-37-21

DATE: June 1, 2021

In November 2015, Council approved Resolution R-84-15 awarding the Avaya telecommunications system upgrade to ConvergeOne. The upgrade was completed in March 2016. Part of the proposal from ConvergeOne includes continued maintenance for the phone system.

ConvergeOne has continued to provide annual maintenance and monitoring on our system since that date and the City is satisfied with the services they have provided.

The FY21 budget includes \$233,000 in funding to upgrade components of the telephone system. Some of the components of the phone system are reaching end of life and require an upgrade. This includes upgrading the main phone system software, voicemail, call reporting and recording software, and some hardware (City Hall, Kenhill Center, Senior Center and Public Works).

The system upgrade will require the City to comply with the federal Ray Baum Act. This requires every phone on a multi-line telephone system to provide a dispatchable location to the public safety access point when 911 is called. The Sentry e911 software will be installed and programmed on our system to meet this requirement.

ConvergeOne provided a quote for \$196,080.70 to complete the above referenced tasks.

In accordance with City Charter Section 61(b), we are requesting that Council waive bidding requirements and allow for the issuance of a Purchase Order to ConvergeOne in the amount of \$196,080.70

ADL/DH
Attachment

RESOLUTION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
WAIVING THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 61
‘PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING’ OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF
BOWIE TO ALLOW THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT
WITH CONVERGEONE TO UPGRADE THE EXISTING TELEPHONE SYSTEM
AND INSTALL AN ENHANCED 911 APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Bowie, Maryland (hereinafter, “the City”) requires, in section 61, that all expenditures for inter alia, materials, construction of public improvements or contractual services involving more than twenty-five thousand dollars be made by written contract upon sealed bids to the lowest responsible bidder, except where the City Council by two-thirds vote waives the bidding requirement for good cause shown; and

WHEREAS, the FY21 budget has funding for phone system upgrades; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution R-84-15, the City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a competitively-bid contract with ConvergeOne to upgrade and maintain our telephone system; and

WHEREAS, our current telephone software version and some hardware is approaching end of life and requires an upgrade; and

WHEREAS, the vendor is required to implement enhanced 911 software to meet compliance with the Federal Ray Baum Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed contract price for the services to be procured will exceed twenty-five thousand dollars and the City Council deems the aforesated economic efficiencies to constitute good cause to waive the bidding requirements otherwise required by the Charter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, by at least a two-thirds vote, that:

Section 1. The competitive bidding requirements of Section 61 of the Bowie City Charter are for good cause shown, hereby waived.

Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with ConvergeOne in the amount of \$196,080.70 for the above mentioned services.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a meeting on June 7, 2021 by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the Council.

ATTEST:

THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND

Awilda Hernandez
City Clerk

Timothy J. Adams
Mayor