

## COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

**ITEM:** Contract for Fire Department Uniforms  
**DATE:** March 1, 2001  
**PREPARED BY:** Paul Segalla  
**PURPOSE:** The contract for fire uniforms expired on 12/31/2000. Specifications were prepared and bids were received from six vendors.

### DISCUSSION:

The Fire Department has had a three year contract with Krest Uniforms. This contract was extended for each of the last two years. Krest Uniforms went out of business in November of 2000. The department had already prepared specifications and prepared bid packets for vendors.

The Fire Department maintains a commissary at Fire Station 1 and attempts to keep an inventory of the most commonly used items. Bargaining unit personnel may purchase clothing from the commissary at bid prices supplied by the contractor. Other items are obtained as needed or the employee may pick up the items personally from the vendor's location.

Bids for uniforms were submitted by A.T.C. Uniforms, Atlas Uniforms and Kale Uniforms. Bids for footwear were submitted by Red Wing Shoe Company and bids for silk-screened goods were submitted by Holy Cow Sports and You & Me, Inc.

The attached spreadsheet shows a breakdown of item costs by each vendor. A.T.C. uniforms has the lowest prices on most of the items. They did not bid the specified items and the uniform pants and shirts are RedKap brand which is an industrial type uniform made of cotton. These do not contain the epaulets, creases and badge tabs that were specified. The items bid by this company would not be compatible with our existing uniforms.

Atlas Uniform is the second lowest bidder on items 1 through 10. Again, this company did not bid the requested uniform but substituted a competing product. In our attempt to insure compatibility, we requested samples from the sales representative. The process of acquiring samples took the sales rep more than four weeks. An evaluation of the fabric shows that the work uniforms are comparable with some slight color variation from our existing uniforms. The Class A dress uniforms were not at all compatible with our current uniform. During our meeting, the vendor also advised that they were unable to supply item #7 which is a 3 button sweatshirt.

Kale Uniforms bid the same brand of items requested by the department. While some of the individual uniform items are not the lowest bid, we feel that Kale is a reputable local firm. They are the uniform vendor for the Police Department and they have a retail store located in Wheaton.

Red Wing Shoe Company bid the appropriate items requested. We have had excellent service with Red Wing for the past six years. They are located in Downers Grove and this allows our members easy access to items.

Holy Cow Sports has been our supplier of silk screened goods for the past six years. We have also had excellent service from this vendor. They took no exceptions to the bid and we feel they are a reputable local firm with solid customer service.

You and Me, Inc was the lower bidder on two of the five silk screened items. We do not feel that there will be any defined savings by utilizing this vendor.

**ATTACHMENT:**

A spreadsheet is attached which outlines individual item prices from each uniform vendor.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The department is recommending that Kale Uniforms, Red Wing Shoe Company and Holy Cow Sports are granted contracts for supplying the appropriate uniform items. This takes into account the purchasing policy that states that other issues should be considered before making a recommendation and awarding the contract to a specific bidder. Some of those issues include, *“The ability, capacity and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service required; Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference; and the quality, availability of the supplies, or contractual services to the particular use required.”*

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>QTY.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>A.T.C. Uniforms Inc.</b>	<b>Atlas Uniform Company</b>	<b>Kale Uniforms</b>	<b>Red Wing Shoe Company</b>	<b>Holy Cow Sports</b>	<b>You &amp; Me, Inc.</b>
1	60	Shirt, Navy Blue, Long Sleeve	20.00 *	25.25 *	29.95	NB	NB	NB
2	40	Shirt, Navy Blue, Short Sleeve	18.50 *	21.85 *	25.95	NB	NB	NB
3	25	Shirt, White, Long Sleeve	20.00 *	24.50 *	28.95	NB	NB	NB
4	20	Shirt, White, Short Sleeve	18.50 *	21.70 *	25.50	NB	NB	NB
5	100	Trousers	13.00 *	25.50 *	36.95	NB	NB	NB
6	40	Trousers Cargo Pocket	20.50 *	38.50 *	51.95	NB	NB	NB
7	35	Embroidered Three Button Sweatshirt	25.00 *	35.00	51.95	NB	NB	NB
8	10	Shirt, White, Long Sleeve	NB	27.75 *	32.50	NB	NB	NB
9	20	Shirt, White, Short Sleeve	NB	24.50 *	28.25	NB	NB	NB
10	20	Trousers, Class A	18.00 *	25.00 *	30.95	NB	NB	NB
11	5	Blouse Coat, Class A	115.00	157.00 *	122.95	NB	NB	NB
12		Top Coat	NB	145.00 *	140.95	NB	NB	NB
13	30	Jacket, Blue Waist Length	135.00	135.00	122.95	NB	NB	NB
14	10	Jacket, Blue Hip Length	175.00	175.00	167.95	NB	NB	NB
15	10	Jacket, Blue 911 EMS	195.00	233.00	NB	NB	NB	NB
16	10	Dress Shoe Perma-Shine	47.00 *	63.00	68.50	NB	NB	NB
17	10	Work Oxford Shoe	65.00 *	71.00	73.95	NB	NB	NB
18	10	Work Oxford, Steel Toe	NB	NB	NB	121.00	NB	NB
19	15	Shoe Black Leather Oxford High Top, Steel Toe	NB	NB	NB	131.00	NB	NB
20	15	Boot, Black Star Leather Zipper, Steel Toe	45.00 *	NB	NB	140.00	NB	NB
21	15	Boot Black Chrome Leather Zipper, Steel Toe	40.00 *	NB	NB	150.00	NB	NB
22	15	Zipper Kit for Zipper Boots	NB	NB	NB	18.50	NB	NB
23	10	Resole, Supersole	NB	NB	NB	55.00	NB	NB
24	10	Resole, Vibram Lug	NB	NB	NB	55.00	NB	NB
25	10	Resole, Grip-Tec	NB	NB	NB	51.00	NB	NB
26	10	Insole for Steel Toe	NB	NB	NB	15.50	NB	NB

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27	40	Shoe Cream, Black	NB	NB	NB	2.25	NB	NB
28	75	Work Socks, Cotton, Black/white	NB	8.00	2.95	3.60	NB	NB
29	75	Dress Socks, Black Crew	NB	7.00	6.95	NB	NB	NB
30	15	Navy Fire Fighters Cap	NB	38.00	31.50	NB	NB	NB
31	15	White Officers Cap	NB	38.00	29.95	NB	NB	NB
32	1	White Chiefs Cap	NB	38.00	68.50	NB	NB	NB
33	50	Name Tag (one line)	9.50	4.00	5.95	NB	NB	NB
34	50	Name Tag (two line)	12.50	4.00	7.50	NB	NB	NB
35	50	Belt, Black Leather	30.00	12.00 *	14.95	NB	NB	NB
36	50	Gloves, Black Leather	15.00	16.00 *	18.50	NB	NB	NB
37	20	Gloves, White Dress	4.00	3.00 *	NB	NB	NB	NB
38	10	Tie, Neck	4.50	4.00	4.95	NB	NB	NB
39	10	Tie, Velcro	4.50	7.00	5.95	NB	NB	NB
40	2 looms	Patches		1.50 each	1.80	NB	NB	NB
41	400	Shirt Sleeve Tee Shirt	6.00	7.00 *	NB	NB	5.50	5.50
42	100	Long Sleeve Tee Shirt	20.00	9.80	NB	NB	8.25	7.75
43	80	Sweatshirt	20.00 *	22.40	NB	NB	19.95	17.75
44	80	Sweat Short	15.00 *	6.00	NB	NB	6.10	7.04
45	80	Sweat Pants	15.00 *	10.50	NB	NB	8.50	8.99

**DELIVERY SHOULD BE WITHIN – 14 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF ORDER**

\* Indicates a variance in brand indicated in description of each item.