

COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

ITEM: Contract for Fire Department Uniforms
DATE: February 19, 2002
PREPARED BY: Deputy Chief Jackson
PURPOSE: Renew the contract for fire uniforms using the second year option provided by current vendors.
BID AMOUNT: \$ **ACCOUNT:** 001.722.0000.5205

TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT: \$85,000 / Uniform Budget - \$42,500

DISCUSSION:

The Fire Departments' current uniform contract expired on January 31, 2002. This contract contained a second and third year option from all vendors. We have been very satisfied with the service from all three vendors and wish to continue the contract utilizing their second year option.

History

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.

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 seven 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 seven 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.

ATTACHMENT:

A spreadsheet is attached which outlines individual item prices from the current uniform vendors. The amounts on the spreadsheets are the quantity prices only and they are not extended due to uncertainty of the items needed throughout the year. We do, however, remain within the yearly uniform budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

The department is recommending we continue with Kale Uniforms, Red Wing Shoe Company and Holy Cow Sports contracts for supplying the appropriate uniform items utilizing the three year option provided by all three vendors. See previously awarded Council Workshop Item form dated March 1, 2001.

VENDORS PRICE LIST:

***Kale
Uniforms***

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
15	Navy Firefighters Cap	\$32.25	\$32.95
15	White Officers Cap	\$30.50	\$31.25
1	White Chiefs Cap	\$69.95	\$71.25
50	Name Tag - One Line	\$5.95	\$5.95
50	Name Tag - Two Line	\$7.50	\$7.50
50	Black leather Belt	\$15.25	\$15.50
50	Black Leather Gloves	\$18.95	\$19.25
10	Neck Tie	\$4.95	\$4.95
10	Velcro Tie	\$5.95	\$5.95
40	Patches	\$1.80	\$1.80
60	LS Navy Blue Shirt	\$30.50	\$31.25
40	SS Navy Blue Shirt	\$26.50	\$27.25
25	LS White Shirt	\$39.50	\$30.25
20	SS White Shirt	\$25.95	\$26.50
100	Trousers	\$36.95	\$37.50
40	Trouser Cargo Pocket	\$52.95	\$53.95
35	Embr 3 Button Swtshirt	\$52.95	\$53.95
10	White Poly LS Shirt	\$33.25	\$33.95
20	White Poly SS Shirt	\$29.50	\$30.25
20	Class A Trousers	\$31.50	\$32.25
5	Class A Blouse	\$125.50	\$128.00
	Top Coat	\$143.75	\$146.50
30	Waist Length Blue Jacket	\$125.50	\$127.95
10	Hip Length Jacket	\$171.25	\$174.75
10	Dress Shoe Permishine	\$69.95	\$71.50
10	Work Oxford Shoe	\$75.50	\$76.95
75	Work Socks BLK/WHT	\$2.95	\$2.95
75	Dress Socks Black Crew	\$6.95	\$7.25

VENDORS PRICE LIST: CONT.

Red Wing Shoes

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
10	Steel Toe Work Oxford	\$123.00	\$125.00
15	Steel Toe Blk Lther Hi Top	\$133.00	\$135.00
15	BLK Star Lther Zipper	\$142.00	\$145.00
15	BLK Chrome Lther Zipper	\$152.50	\$155.00
15	Zipper Kit for Zipper Boots	\$18.50	\$18.50
10	Supersole Resole	\$56.00	\$57.00
10	Vibram Lug resole	\$56.00	\$57.00
10	Grip Tech Resole	\$52.00	\$53.00
10	Insole for Steel Toe	\$15.50	\$15.50
40	Shoe Cream, Black	\$2.25	\$2.30

Holy Cow Sports

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
400	Short Sleeve Tee Shirts	\$5.60	\$5.70
100	Long sleeve Tee Shirts	\$8.40	\$8.56
80	Sweat Shirts	\$20.30	\$20.70
80	Sweat Shorts	\$6.22	\$6.34
80	Sweat Pants	\$8.65	\$8.82



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."*