

Legislation Text

File #: 1968, **Version:** 1

CC MEETING: May 5, 2015

DATE: April 14, 2015

TO: Leonard Martin, City Manager

FROM: Elliott J. Reep, Emergency Management Coordinator

Discuss **Acquisition Of A Mass Notification System.**

BACKGROUND:

Following City Council direction from the November 4, 2014 worksession, the City's emergency management staff coordinated a review process of potential mass notification vendors. DFW area cities were polled on their systems and numerous vendors were screened for the desired system capabilities and features. In addition, a series of web demonstrations were conducted with potential vendors and city staff. The process culminated with on-site presentations from two potential vendors, Everbridge, Inc. and Send Word Now Communication, Inc.

Based on pricing, capabilities and recommendations from area partners, Everbridge, Inc. was selected as the vendor best able to deliver the services desired by the City. Everbridge, Inc. provided a one year GSA-approved contract with a four-year extension option package. The contract provides unlimited emergency and non-emergency alerting services for the City at a cost of \$43,835.44 for the first year and then \$40,588.37 annually for each of the optional four year extension periods. The first year price of \$43,835.44 includes: a basic service cost of \$35,514.82; a one-time implementation and set-up fee of \$3,247.07; and \$5,073.55 for the Smart Weather Alerting package.

Based on information provided by the vendor as well as feedback from partner cities of comparable size who utilize mass notification systems, the City's emergency management staff recommends that the Smart Weather Alerting package be evaluated during the initial year of the contract prior to committing to future possible extensions. This is due to the fact that the larger a city's population the higher the number of messages which are required to be sent out at one time during severe weather alerting as opposed to more localized notification alerts. The speed at which this occurs depends on the local telecommunications infrastructure. While general estimates can be made by telecom providers based on their capacity, the true results require real-world testing to verify capability.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION/ACTION DESIRED:

Staff seeks to provide City Council information on the recommended mass notification system and seeks guidance from Council regarding the purchase of the notification system from Everbridge, Inc.