



Agenda Item Summary

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Submitted By

LaDon Reynolds, Chief of Police

Reviewed By

LKS

Agenda Item Title

A Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement with R.E. Walsh & Associates Inc. for Latent Fingerprint Examination Services for the Village's Police Department for a One Year Period and Two Optional One Year Renewals in an Annual Amount not to Exceed \$50,000 and Authorizing its Execution

Overview

This resolution authorizes a successor agreement with R.E. Walsh for latent fingerprint identification services. R.E. Walsh is a sole source vendor of this service.

Recommendation

Approve the Resolution.

Fiscal Impact

Funds are available in the General Fund, Police Department for this service.

Background

The Oak Park Police Department analyzes latent fingerprint as an investigative tool to identify criminal offenders. R.E. Walsh & Associates, an investigative, security, and consulting firm, owned and operated by former FBI and municipal law enforcement personnel is a sole source vendor in the State of Illinois who has been qualified by the State and FBI for the Direct Connectivity Program in Illinois which provides Direct Latent Connectivity (DLC) to qualifying law enforcement agencies and allows for latent fingerprint and palm print searches within the FBI-IAFIS database. The advantage of sending latent print searches directly to the FBI is that the law enforcement agency is the department submitting the original print is automatically notified of a potential match to their latent print through an email message, referred to as an Unidentified Latent Match (ULM). The services offered by R.E. Walsh & Associates are not intended to supplant the State Crime Laboratory for fingerprint processing, but to offer an accurate and efficient means for local law enforcement to search latent fingerprint evidence on selected cases that require timely results. The average return time for searching the latent prints through the FBI database is approximately four hours. For example; a residential burglary pattern where fingerprint evidence is present can be processed in a matter of hours, as opposed to months and years via the State Crime Laboratory. The potential to develop suspects quickly and recover stolen property is community policing at its best, provides excellent public relations benefits, instills citizen's confidence in local police departments, and is cost effective for the department.

In 2012, Oak Park was one of four departments which received Illinois State Police and FBI approval for access

to the FBI-IAFIS Direct Connectivity database through a contract with RE Walsh & Associates. The services offered by R.E. Walsh are an accurate and efficient means for local law enforcement to search latent fingerprint evidence on selected cases that require timely results. This allows the opportunity to identify, for example, a residential burglary pattern where fingerprint evidence is present.

Since 2012, the average annual expenditure with R.E. Walsh has been under \$20,000 in 2017, 2018 and year to date in 2019, it is in excess of \$25,000 and Village Board approval is being sought.

Alternatives

The Village Board could seek additional information.

Previous Board Action

N/A

Citizen Advisory Commission Action

N/A

Anticipated Future Actions/Commitments

N/A