Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue

Memorandum

TO: NMFR Joint Finance & Personnel Committee Members

FROM: Chief Auxier and A/C Mike Sipin

DATE: December 4, 2014

RE: Dive Team Request for Masks

During the initial stages of the NMFR Dive Team proposal, it was noted that the burden to the Department and City budgets would be major. Being cognizant of this, the decision was made internally to fund this endeavor through private donations and grants. I continue to be proud in stating the initial goal of raising $90,000 was reached, fundraising surpassed $100,000 earlier this year. However, as we move forward, we have recognized, and experienced, many challenges that impact our abilities in funding the dive team through donations and grants.

Our approved 2015 budget includes $20,000 in Capital Outlay for the purchase of Dive Team Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Part of the budgeted money was to be used for the purchase of full face masks for each diver. There are a couple of reasons we budgeted money for masks for each diver.

Safety is the primary reason. A personal mask provides for proper fit between the diver and the mask. A proper fit helps to ensure leaks are at a minimum, or won't occur at all. A leaking mask can cause havoc and panic in a diver. A properly fit mask also allows a diver to correctly "equalizing the sinus passages" when descending. As pressure to the inner ear increases when the diver descends, it is imperative that the diver is able to "equalize" the sinus in order to avoid a ruptured ear drum. (PADI, 2010 safety standard). If left unattended, this condition can lead to vertigo and other serious ear and sinus problems. This can seriously hinder the diver's safety and the overall success of the operation. This is an occurrence we would ever want a diver to experience.

The second reason is hygiene and proper fit. We have 15 Dive Team members that are assigned across the three operational shifts. Currently, divers are sharing masks during training and actual dives. We do not have the ability to properly clean and disinfect the masks between dives to help in the prevention of "germ" transmission from one diver to another through the mask.

We have also found having a limited number of shared masks creates challenges during cold water/freezing periods. Masks get wet by virtue of being submerged in the environment. In addition, moisture from the user also builds up within the mask. The likelihood of equipment freeze-ups or failures increase as the mask is exposed to the open air during freezing periods. Dive operations during these times have been cut short due to mask freeze-ups. This reduces the time personnel have to gain valuable experience during training sessions. If each diver has their own mask this would prevent this and not hinder actual diver operations during a call as one diver comes out of the water the next diver would have the ability to enter the right away as they have their own mask. If we have enough masks for each diver, along with spares, this increases the likelihood of a successful operation, with no equipment failures or freeze-ups.

125 E. Columbian Avenue, Neenah, WI – Phone 920-886-6200, Fax 920-886-6208

Chris Ederer, a Firefighter for NMFR and recently certified Master Diver, has assumed a primary role in maintaining Dive Team operations with Assistant Chief Sipin. Chris has contacted three different companies and was able to obtain the best price from Green Bay SCUBA, LLC.

I am asking for a recommendation to both Common Councils to approve the purchase of eleven (11) OTS Guardian Full Face Masks with the EM-OTS2 Communication Microphones and Earphones for $795 per unit for a total of $8,745.00 plus $55.00 shipping for grand total of $8,800.00.

Thank you for your consideration.

Enclosure

AA/tt

OTS Guardian FFM with Comms bid
Green Bay Scuba LLC
to:
cederer
12/03/2014 07:06 PM
Hide Details
From: "Green Bay Scuba LLC" <sales@gbscuba.com>
To: <cederer@nmfire.org>

Hi Chris,
Thank you for stopping in today, it sounds like your team is coming along nicely.

Regarding the FFM's and Comms; I talked to OTS and they said they don't have a sale coming at the end of December.

I did get some pretty good pricing on the units and can offer you the following bid:

OTS Guardian Full Face Mask with the EM-OTS2 Communication Microphones and Earphones for $795.00 per unit, plus $55.00 shipping cost.
This totals to: $8800.00.

Thank you for allowing me to bid on your gear, and good luck with the process. I look forward to working with you and your team in the future.

Al Pahnke

Green Bay Scuba LLC
920-498-8499
sales@gbscuba.com
www.gbscuba.com

Date: 12/3/2014
Expiration Date: 1/31/2015

Shipwreck Adventures LLC
2004 Washington ST
Two Rivers, WI 54241
920-482-0725
divbum@charter.net

Neenah
Menasha Fire
125 E
Columbian Ave
Neenah, WI
(920) 886-6200

Salesperson	Job	Shipping Method	Shipping Terms	Delivery Date	Payment Terms	Due Date
					Credit Card	

Qty	Item #	Description	Unit Price	Discount	Line Total
11	GRD-BB-1	Gaurdian FFM, with ABV-1, LPhose and Bag	849.00	192.00	7227.00
11	EM-OTS2-AQUA	Ear mic hard wire	499.00	111.20	4265.80
1	Shipping		No Charge	No Charge	No Charge

Total Discount	
Subtotal	11492.80
Sales Tax	Exempt
Total	11492.80

Quotation prepared by: Gregory M Such - Owner _____

This is a quotation on the goods named, subject to the conditions noted below: (Describe any conditions pertaining to these prices and any additional terms of the agreement. You may want to include contingencies that will affect the quotation.)

To accept this quotation, sign here and return: _____

Thank you for your business!

Ocean Technology Systems
3133 W. Harvard Street
Santa Ana, CA 92704
(800) 550-1984 ext. 113 - (714) 754-7848
Fax (714) 966-1639 Email: abustos@otscomm.com

Quotation

Quote Date: Dec-01-2014
Quote #: 8250
Sales Contact:

Customer

Chris Ederer
Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue

cederer@nmfire.org

Item #	Description	Qty	Price	Extended Price
920001-001	GRD-BB-1, OTS Guardian FFM, Black Skirt/Black Hardware, Includes: ABV-1, LP Hose, Mask Bag	11	849	$9,339.00
910369-000	EM-OTS-2, Ear/Mic Assembly for OTS Guardian FFM, Hot Mic	11	499	$5,489.00

** This Quote Worksheet does not include Orange County, CA Tax, if applicable. You may remove items and change quantities to see new Quote totals.

Total Quote $14,828.00