DATE: October 7, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Dan St. John, F.ASCE – Director, Public Works & Utilities  
Pat Dunn, Interim Utility Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving the Purchase of One (1) 2014 Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner from Municipal Maintenance Equipment, Inc. in the amount of $387,632.15 and Declaring the Existing Sewer Vacuum and Flush Vehicle Surplus to the City’s Needs and Directing the City Manager to Dispose of the Vehicle in Accordance with Provisions of the Petaluma Municipal Code

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution approving the purchase of One (1) 2014 Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner from Municipal Maintenance Equipment, Inc. in the amount of $387,632.15 and declaring the existing vacuum and flush vehicle (aka, vactor or Vac-Con truck) surplus to the City’s needs and direct the city manager to dispose of it in accordance with the provision of the PMC.

BACKGROUND

The Public Works and Utilities Department has long relied on the technology provided by vacuum and flush trucks to perform maintenance operation that cannot be effectively and efficiently performed by other means. These vehicles are often referred to as “vactor trucks” or “Vac-Cons”, which is technically a proprietary trade name. These operations include potholing and excavating water distribution piping to effect repairs at leaks and to investigate utility locations. They are used to “suck” out debris and sediment that accumulates in stormwater and wastewater pump stations within their inlet screens and wet wells. But their most powerful use is the cleaning of gravity sanitary and storm sewers. The vehicle has a combination of tankage, pumping, and hoses that allow the operators to first jet out the lines with clear water to loosen up accumulated debris and sediment and move it down the pipe to the downstream manhole or storm drain inlet. The vehicle has a suction tank and a large “elephant trunk” hose that can be lowered into the manhole or inlet to suck out the debris and sediment washed out by the jetting operation and store it in the tankage on board. Once full, the vactor transports the materials to a decant station where the slurry is off-loaded for additional processing and disposal.
The City maintains three similarly functioning vehicles for water line maintenance and repair, sewer line cleaning, and storm drain line maintenance. The three are not easily interchangeable because the water vector has to remain clear of wastewater and other contaminants for health reasons and does not need to be as big as the other two. The sewer line vector is the intermediate sized one while the storm drain vector is biggest because of the demand for removal of debris caught in storm drains and stormwater pump stations. These vehicles generally require high maintenance due to the multiple systems on board and the close tolerances of the pumping, suction, and articulated hose fittings.

The proposed action meets Council Goal: “Achieve fiscal stability and maintain financial sustainability”.

DISCUSSION

Due to the age, high mileage and increasing costs to maintain, staff recommends replacement of the current 1996 Vac-Con Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner. Utility Maintenance crews use the Vac-Con Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner on a daily basis to clean and maintain the City’s gravity sewer collection system. The vehicle is used exclusively in town where the mileage is very demanding on maintenance. There are currently 760 hours on the high pressure pump that, due to being 17 years old, has to be rebuilt quarterly by City staff. Multiple parts and functions on the vehicle are failing and will require replacing in the near future. The mechanic who services the truck at the Petaluma City School Shop indicates that although the vehicle has relatively low mileage (60,000), due to its age and daily wear and tear the chassis is beginning to show signs of weakening. He also indicates that the transmission and engine are beginning to seep off from various gaskets and hoses, two of the water tanks have leaks, and the hydraulic line is old and seeping hydraulic fluid throughout the hydraulic system. To keep the vehicle running effectively and safely it will require extensive, costly repairs. Based on staff experience over the past several years, the existing vehicle, if kept by the City, will incur extensive repair costs in the near future.

Staff has evaluated the potential for reassignment of the existing vector truck to another function. Currently the department has two similar vehicles, one dedicated to water line maintenance, and one to storm sewer maintenance. While Ellis Creek does occasionally have need of a similar vehicle, staff has concluded that it would be more cost effective to coordinate the needs of the two divisions and to share the proposed new vehicle between the sewer maintenance and the wastewater treatment function, as opposed to retaining and reassigning the existing vector truck. Keeping the existing vector truck as backup will cause the City to incur higher than necessary maintenance costs.

Per Municipal Code 4.04.100, Cooperative Purchasing Programs, the bidding process may be waived with approval by City Council, when it is advantageous for the City to use contracts that were awarded by other state, county or other public agencies, provided that cooperative purchases joined will have been competitively awarded, and documentation as to the advantage of the cooperative purchase will be retained. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution approving the purchase of one (1) Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner from Municipal Maintenance Equipment, Inc. in the amount of $387,632.15 under the
current National Joint Powers Alliance Contract No. 031710-AMI. In addition, staff recommends that the existing vehicle slated for replacement be declared surplus.

Staff obtained a quotation from Municipal Maintenance Equipment of Hayward for the same vehicle purchased outside of the National Joint Powers Alliance. The quote for the same equipment with the same features is $408,521.43 delivered with taxes included. Using the cooperative purchasing program will save the City approximately $20,000.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The replacement of the Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner Vehicle was budgeted in the current annual budget and, if approved by Council, will be funded from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund account 6600-66100-62210. The current balance in the account is $400,000.

The surplus value of the existing vehicle is not expected to exceed $50,000 and would be credited back into the same account used to purchase the new vehicle. If the existing equipment is declared surplus, the City will retain the services of a reputable vehicle auction company to dispose of the asset.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Quote and options under the current National Joint Powers Alliance Contract No. 031710-AMI
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) VAC-CON COMBINATION JET/VACUUM SEWER CLEANER FROM ATLANTIC MACHINERY, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $387,632.15 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE AND DECLARING THE EXISTING SEWER VACUUM AND FLUSH VEHICLE SURPLUS TO THE CITY’S NEEDS AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF THE VEHICLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE PETALUMA MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Utilities Department has identified a requirement for a new Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner to replace the existing vacuum and flush truck #718 which was purchased by the City in 1996;

WHEREAS, the Petaluma Municipal Code section 4.04.100 provides that purchases made through a cooperative purchasing program with the state, county or other public agencies are exempt from provisions of Chapter 4.04 of the Petaluma Municipal Code which requires the City to conduct its own competitive bid process for certain purchases and documentation as to the advantage of the cooperative purchase will be retained;

WHEREAS, The City of Petaluma intends to purchase one (1) Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner competitively bid under the current National Joint Powers Alliance Contract 031710-AMI;

WHEREAS, City staff solicited a quotation for the same model Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner with the same options as the one recommended for purchase and determined that the price outside of the cooperative purchasing program would be approximately $20,000 more than the price offered under the current National Joint Powers Alliance Contract 031710-AMI;

WHEREAS, the Public, Works and Utilities Department will utilize budgeted funds from fiscal years 2013/2014 to purchase the Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner;

WHEREAS, Public Works and Utilities staff has identified the existing vacuum and flush truck, City vehicle #718, as no longer of use to the City; and

WHEREAS, the identified vehicle #718 is declared surplus to the City’s needs and no longer required by the City.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL
HEREBY,

Approves the purchase of one (1) Vac-Con Combination Jet/Vacuum Sewer Cleaner from Municipal Maintenance Equipment, Inc. in the amount of $387,632.15 under the current National Joint Powers Alliance Contract 031710-AMI; Authorizes the City Manager, or his designee, to execute any necessary documents to complete the purchase; Declares the Existing Sewer Vacuum and Flush Vehicle Surplus to the City's Needs; and Directs the City Manager to dispose of the existing City vehicle # 718 in Accordance with Provisions of the Petaluma Municipal Code.
July 23, 2013

City of Petaluma  
202 North McDowell Blvd.  
Petaluma, CA 94954

Tel 707-778-4546  
Fax 707-778-4508  
pdirrone@ci.petaluma.ca.us  
skennedy@ci.petaluma.ca.us

Attention: Patrick D irrane, Supervisor  
cc: Steve Kennedy, Wastewater Supervisor

We are pleased to provide the enclosed contract pricing sheet off the National Joint Powers Alliance Contract No. 031710-AML (www.njpacoop.org) for the Vac-Con Model VPD4250LHA-O/850 Combination Sewer and Storm Drain Cleaner mounted on a new 2014 Peterbilt 348 4x2 truck chassis for your review.

Summary:  
Complete Unit Price: F.O.B. Petaluma, CA  
$358,089.75  
8.25% Sales Tax  
$29,542.40  
Total  
$387,632.15

• City’s Purchase Order to be prepared and sent directly to Atlantic Machinery, Inc.
• City to pay sales tax directly to the State of California;
• MME to assist with DMV registration;
• Pricing includes delivery and on-site training;
• Delivery 90-120 days A.R.O.
• Terms per NJPA Program.

Thank you for your continued interest in this fine product. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know. We look forward to being of service.

Sincerely,
Municipal Maintenance Equipment, Inc.

Frank Wheeler III,  
Vice President

Enclosures
Atlantic Machinery Awarded NJPA National Contract for Public Utility Vehicles

National Contract #031710-AM1: “Public Utility Vehicles and Services, Apparatus, Equipment & Accessories” has been added to the competitively bid products and service available to National Joint Powers Alliance® (NJPA) Contract Purchasing Members throughout the nation.

(Staples, MN – July 8, 2010) – NJPA is pleased to announce the awarding of contract number 031710-AM1 to Atlantic Machinery on behalf of Schwarze Industries, Vac-Con & ENZ USA, Inc. for Public Utility Vehicles and Services, Apparatus, Equipment & Accessories. As the contract administrator for these three manufacturers, Atlantic Machinery will manage NJPA’s members needs as they pertain to street sweepers, vac-type equipment & high pressure pipe cleaning equipment.

About Schwarze Industries:
For over 30 years in the street sweeping business, Schwarze Industries has been committed to providing an extraordinary level of customer support. Schwarze Industries offers one of the most comprehensive sweeper lines in the sweeping business, including models for parking area cleaning, industrial sweeping, mall and shopping center cleaning, airport runway sweeping, street sweeping, milling, cleanup and stormwater runoff (PM-10) management.

“We are very pleased to receive a contract with the National Joint Powers Alliance® (NJPA), in conjunction with our dealer partner, Atlantic Machinery,” states Bob Faulhaber, President Schwarze Industries. “Both Schwarze Industries and Atlantic Machinery value the opportunity to serve over 30,000 members of this alliance with the best built and most comprehensive line of municipal and parking lot sweepers in our industry. We believe that this new cooperative purchasing alliance will benefit our governmental customers through streamlined purchasing processes and leveraged purchasing power. Our research revealed NJPA to have a professional, well-structured approach to provide members with:

- Time and resource savings
- Leveraged volume pricing
- Comprehensive member service

It is also a “win” for Schwarze Industries and Atlantic Machinery to have access to the Alliance’s nationwide membership. We are very pleased to be working with NJPA and look forward to a very successful partnership.”
About Vac-Con:
Vac-Con, Inc., a manufacturer of heavy duty, truck-mounted vacuum equipment, serving both private industry and public entities since 1986. Vac-Con delivers high-performing, rugged products for sewer cleaning, industrial vacuuming, hydro excavation and water jetting. All Vac-Con products come fully loaded with a powerful package of thoughtful features. For more power, ease of use, relentless performance, rugged durability and uncompromised safety...Vac-Con delivers. What sets Vac-Con apart is engineering and added features and value that deliver more uptime, more technology, more success on the job and more confidence in getting the job done.

Darrell LeSage, president and founder of Vac-Con states “We are both pleased and grateful to have the opportunity to participate in the NJPA contract. We have many fine products, supported by a strong service and training network to help NJPA members reach their infrastructure and environmental cleaning goals. We think that by combining our innovative and environmentally-friendly products with the buying power and convenience of the NJPA contract, the members can be assured of getting high performance, as well as the best value, certainly an important factor in today’s difficult economy. Another important factor is that our machines are mostly used in environmentally-sensitive applications, something that always brings new challenges and questions. Our industrial vacuum loaders and vacuum excavators have worked in heavy construction and utility applications to effectively and quickly recover spilled or waste material, to safely uncover sensitive underground utilities, to set utility poles, and even to assist in trench collapse and other fire and rescue operations. Our combination sewer and drain cleaning products have covered a full spectrum of municipal cleaning applications, including storm and sanitary sewer lines, catch basins and water treatment plants. The importance of mentioning all of these applications is that our philosophy since the beginning has been to incorporate our customers’ good ideas, and custom build our products around their special needs and applications. That means when someone needs our products, we can also offer nearly 25 years of custom, problem-solving and field experience with thousands of customers around the world. We welcome NJPA members to take advantage of this experience, and we’re looking forward to working in partnership with the NJPA to help provide effective and innovative solutions.”

About ENZ USA, Inc.:
ENZ USA, Inc. offers a large range of high quality pipe cleaning tools. Through innovative designs, we have assisted the sewer and pipe cleaning industry to remain on the forefront of new, creative and effective solutions in cleaning/maintaining utility infrastructure.

Dana M. Hicks, National Sales Manager for ENZ USA states, “ENZ USA, Inc. is extremely excited and proud to learn of our recent contract award with NJPA. We feel this partnership will greatly benefit NJPA’s members as they now have access to ENZ’s full line of quality sewer & pipe cleaning equipment through a competitively bid contract that offers nationally leveraged pricing, meaning quantifiable money AND time savings when purchasing through our NJPA contract.”
About NJPA:
The National Joint Powers Alliance® (NJPA) is a Municipal Contracting government agency established through legal statute in 1978. NJPA serves over 30,000 Members throughout the nation with competitively awarded purchasing solutions from industry-leading vendors.

**About Contract #031710-AMI:**
Andy Campbell  
(218) 894-5491  
andy.campbell@njpacoop.org

**Press Contact:**
Mike Hajek  
(218) 894-5477  
mike.hajek@njpacoop.org

**For more information:**
http://www.njpacoop.org  
http://www.atlanticmachineryinc.com/  
www.schwarze.com  
www.vac-con.com  
www.enzusaine.com