

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: August 9, 2021

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager
William L. Mayo, Fire Chief

Council Action Requested:
Resolution approving a sole source purchase from Red Wave Technology of a handheld RAM Spectrometer for raw material identification by the Winston-Salem Fire Department

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community
Strategic Objective: Yes
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

The Fire Department is replacing its current Smith’s Detection HazMat ID unit due to the manufacturer’s ending support for this device. The RAM Spectrometer will be used to identify over 35,000 substances such as unknown solids and liquids, explosives, white powders, narcotics, and toxic industrial chemicals. The RAM will also be used to properly identify hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction during major concerts, visits by high profile political figures, and during civil protest.

G.S. 143-129(e)(6) provides an exception for sole-source purchases that do not require formal bidding when "(i) performance or price competition for a product are not available; (ii) a needed product is available from only one source of supply.” Red Wave Technology of Danbury, CT is the sole manufacturer of the ThreatID GLS spectrometer. There is no other available spectrometer for field use with these unique capabilities

Committee Action:

Committee	Finance 8/9/2021 Public Safety 8/9/2021	Action	Approval
For	Unanimous	Against	
Remarks:			

This Council Action would authorize a sole source purchase from Red Wave Technology totaling \$85,000. The acquisition would be financed through the North Carolina Municipal Leasing Corporation.