



To: Budget Committee/Blount County Commission
From: Deputy Chief, Jarrod Millsaps
CC: Chief Deputy French/Finance Director Baldwin
Date: 5/31/2024
Re: Amendment to Multi-Year Body and In-car Cameras contract with Axon- to include Tasers

Budget Committee Members and Commissioners,

We, as well as Purchasing, came to the Budget Committee and Commission back in December of 2020, with the request of a multi-year contract with **Axon** for Body Cameras and In-Car (Fleet) Cameras. Both bodies approved the multi-year contract, as well as the associated funding, approximately \$570,000 per year. This included upgrades, updates, repairs, monitoring, etc. We are now in the middle of our fourth year of the contract, set to expire December 31, 2025.

We are coming to you now, to request an amendment to this contract, which would allow us to add Tasers (Taser 10s), to the current contract, locking in current taser pricing for the next 5 years. This would allow for upgrades, updates, repairs, monitoring, etc. on our tasers, just as we've been receiving on our cameras. (Our current tasers were purchased a la carte, and so do not have this added benefit.) This would result in the initiation of the start of a new 5 year cycle, beginning July 1, 2024, IF approved by this body.

The proposed budget, currently before you, includes the funding for the tasers to be added to the contract, an additional \$149k per year for the Taser portion of the contract. While the additional contract expense for the Tasers is \$149k per year, the financial impact is net neutral due to realignment of funds and savings identified from the a la carte method we operate under currently for upgrades, updates, and repairs. Again, this is currently programmed in the FY24-25 budget recommendation from the Budget Committee .

We would ask that you approve the amendment to the current Axon contract, and allow us to supply our patrol deputies with the latest model in tasers (Taser 10). These tasers prove more accurate and more effective. The current taser model that our patrol deputies use, the Taser 7, will be handed down to our corrections deputies, allowing them to upgrade from an older model as well.

We would greatly appreciate your support and consideration,

Jarrod Millsaps