



CITY OF LE SUEUR
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Bruce Kelly, Chief of Police
Aaron Thieke, Sergeant

SUBJECT: Implementation of Body Worn Cameras

DATE: For the City Council Meeting of Monday, Month Day, 2019

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

On behalf of the Le Sueur Police Department, we are requesting approval to implement Body Worn Cameras (BWC's). The department is proposing that each officer assigned to patrol duties be equipped with a BWC. Our focus and the ultimate goal is to promote transparency, accountability, evidence gathering/retention, public safety, and building public trust. We believe the implementation of BWC's will also reduce the risk of litigation taken against the City of Le Sueur. Body worn cameras are a proven tool to aid law enforcement in protecting the public, police officers, and collecting valuable evidence. Small town police departments such as the Le Sueur PD can greatly benefit from the use of BWCs. The Le Sueur Police Department often has officers working alone, and a BWC can be the best witness that will help protect citizens and police officers in both critical incidents and everyday encounters. Police Officers and supervisors using the BWC devices will be required to complete P.O.S.T. Board approved required course of instruction before the deployment of devices.

SUMMARY

Through research, consulting nearby departments, and product evaluation we have determined that AXON is the best-suited company for our departmental needs. They offer video retention storage through a "cloud" storage system. Our BWC video would be safely stored on external servers, readily available through Evidence.com. This allows the police department to share the evidentiary video with the city and county attorneys through a secured access website. The associated costs and estimation to implement BWC's are attached below.

In general, the use of BWC's would be required when the officer anticipates that they will be involved in Terry stop of pedestrian or motorist, search, seizure, use of force, arrest, pursuit, domestic, adversarial contact, and other situations that are likely to yield information having an evidentiary value. If the situation is unsafe or impractical for the officer to activate their BWC, it shall be done when reasonably possible.

BWC data is considered to be presumptively private. The video obtained through BWC's will not be available to the general public. All requests for dissemination will be submitted through the city attorney for consideration. Video retention, redaction, dissemination, and handling shall comply with all Minnesota state laws. Officers and their supervisors will have access to view

their own BWC footage to assist in report writing, identifying subjects, investigating crimes, and preparation for trial.

Pursuant to Minnesota state statute 13.825 the BWC minimum storage retention will be as follows: Non-criminal investigative data will be retained for a minimum of 90 days. Any use of force, discharge of a firearm (excluding training or dispatching animals), or formal complaint filed against a peace officer will be retained for a minimum of 1 year if a data subject writes a formal request for data retention that particular data will be retained for an additional 180 days. The Le Sueur Police Department can retain BWC data as long as reasonably necessary for evidentiary or exculpatory use.

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE NEEDED/ ASSOCIATED COSTS

The Le Sueur Police Department has been in contact with the AXON Company to learn what our best options for purchasing cameras and storing data would best fit the needs of our department.

The optimal package for LSPD is a body worn camera package from AXON mobile that includes eight body-worn cameras plus one spare, docking station for all the cameras, Evidence.com usage, and storage, setup fees and training. This option also comes with the “Taser Assurance Program.”

The “Taser Assurance Program” is a program that allows us to upgrade our camera and equipment from Axon each time a newer version of their camera is developed and released for no additional cost. By participating in the Taser Assurance Program, we would always have up to date equipment that would always be warranted by AXON. We are also able to purchase the cameras at a highly discounted rate that we would lose if we purchased the cameras outright.

The current quote is for a five-year program.

Year 1 equipment, software, and costs:

- Taser Assurance Plan Camera Dock 2 Annual Payment – Quantity 1- \$336
- Basic Evidence.com license year 1 payment- Quantity 7- Unit price \$180 -Total cost-\$1,260
- Evidence.com included storage- \$0.00 cost
- Pro Evidence.com license year one payment- Quantity 1- \$468
- Taser Assurance Plan Annual Payment for cameras - Quantity 8 – Unit Price \$240 – Total cost \$1,920
- Evidence.com storage- Quantity 800GB - Unit Price \$.75 – Total cost \$600
- **AXON camera assembly, AXON Body 2 – Unit Price \$499 –Discounted to \$99 – Quantity 8- Total cost \$792.00**
- USB Sync cable –quantity 8 Cost 0.00
- AXON Dock 6 bay + Core –Quantity 1 –Cost \$1,495
- Wall mount bracket –Quantity 1 – Cost \$42
- Magnet Mount –Quantity 8 –Cost \$0
- Thick Outerwear mount –Quantity 8 –Cost \$0
- AXON Starter Package (training for officers) Quantity 1 –Cost \$2,750
- Spare body camera, sync cable, magnet mount, outerwear mount –Quantity 1 – Cost \$0
- **Total year one package cost \$9,663**

Year 2 annual cost:

- Taser Assurance Plan Camera Dock 2 Annual Payment – Quantity 1- \$336
- Basic Evidence.com license year 1 payment- Quantity 7- Unit price \$180 -Total cost- \$1,260
- Evidence.com included storage- \$0.00 cost
- Pro Evidence.com license year 2 payment- Quantity 1- \$468
- Taser Assurance Plan Annual Payment for cameras - Quantity 8 – Unit Price \$240 – Total cost \$1,920
- Evidence.com storage- Quantity 1600GB - Unit Price \$.75 – Total cost \$1200
- **Total annual costs year 2 - \$5,184**

Year 3 annual cost:

- Taser Assurance Plan Camera Dock 2 Annual Payment – Quantity 1- \$336
- Basic Evidence.com license year 1 payment- Quantity 7- Unit price \$180 -Total cost- \$1,260
- Evidence.com included storage- \$0.00 cost
- Pro Evidence.com license year 2 payment- Quantity 1- \$468
- Taser Assurance Plan Annual Payment for cameras - Quantity 8 – Unit Price \$240 – Total cost \$1,920
- Evidence.com storage- Quantity 2400GB - Unit Price \$.75 – Total cost \$1800
- **Total annual costs year 3 - \$5,784**

Year 4 annual cost:

- Taser Assurance Plan Camera Dock 2 Annual Payment – Quantity 1- \$336
- Basic Evidence.com license year 1 payment- Quantity 7- Unit price \$180 -Total cost- \$1,260
- Evidence.com included storage- \$0.00 cost
- Pro Evidence.com license year 2 payment- Quantity 1- \$468
- Taser Assurance Plan Annual Payment for cameras - Quantity 8 – Unit Price \$240 – Total cost \$1,920
- Evidence.com storage- Quantity 3200GB - Unit Price \$.75 – Total cost \$2400
- **Total annual costs year 4 - \$6,384**

Year 5 annual cost:

- Taser Assurance Plan Camera Dock 2 Annual Payment – Quantity 1- \$336
- Basic Evidence.com license year 1 payment- Quantity 7- Unit price \$180 -Total cost- \$1,260
- Evidence.com included storage- \$0.00 cost
- Pro Evidence.com license year 2 payment- Quantity 1- \$468
- Taser Assurance Plan Annual Payment for cameras - Quantity 8 – Unit Price \$240 – Total cost \$1,920
- Evidence.com storage- Quantity 4000GB - Unit Price \$.75 – Total cost \$3000
- **Total annual costs year 2 - \$6,984**

- **Grand Total Projected Cost of this five-year program including the “Taser Assurance Plan” is \$34,599 ** This cost is an estimate based off projected Data**

Storage needs and may be adjusted accordingly for more needed storage at \$0.75 per gigabyte.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is recommending that the policy attached to this memo is approved by City Council and also that the expenditure related to this purchase of body-worn cameras for the Le Sueur Police Department is approved via motion.