

AGENDA REPORT

DATE February 3, 2004

ITEM Award Contract for Cellular Phone Service for the City of Great Falls

INITIATED BY Great Falls Police Department

ACTION REQUESTED Award Contract for Cellular Phone Service

PREPARED & PRESENTED BY Robert G. Jones, Chief of Police

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RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Commission approve the contract proposed for cellular phone service for the City of Great Falls.

MOTION:

I move the City Commission approve the award of the Cellular Phone Service Contract to Verizon Wireless for a three year period.

SYNOPSIS:

Presently our Cellular One vendor has been with the city for greater than five years. Although they have done an excellent job it was felt that other vendors should be given the opportunity to bid a new cellular phone contract as well as allowing the City to take advantage of new technology and cost saving packages.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Great Falls currently has over 80 cellular telephones in use. The various departments have differing needs in the service provided and we want to address those needs by continuing to ensure we have up to date equipment and options on the calling packages. The Verizon Wireless contract will provide the City with the Montana Normal Usage Plan at \$19.99 per month per phone which is a cost savings from our present plan. With the package, it also more than doubles our present poolable anytime minutes per month per phone. In addition, no roaming in Montana and no long distance when calling within Montana. They also allow us to change plans on individual phones so as to provide for long distance when we are traveling out of state.