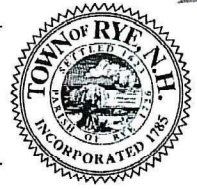




RYE POLICE DEPARTMENT

555 Washington Road Rye, New Hampshire 03870



Kevin Walsh
Chief of Police
www.ryepolice.us

Non-Emergency: (603) 964-5522
Business: (603) 964-7450
Fax: (603) 964-7458

To: Rye Board of Selectmen
From: Chief Kevin Walsh *KW*
Date: March 21, 2024
Re: Sole Sourcing the purchase of two new police cruisers

In November of 2023 I started the process of pricing police cruisers. I contacted MacMulkin Chevrolet and McFarland Ford. MacMulkin Chevy was awarded a state bid for the Chevy Tahoe police package. McFarland Ford was awarded a state bid for multiple Ford vehicles including Ford Explorer police package.

Town purchasing policy states under, Purchasing Procedures: "for purchases to be greater than \$2,500.00 every effort should be made to find at least three written quotes. Firms in the area or firms known to be interested should be contacted. Sole source contractors will only be considered under unusual circumstances and require written justification."

MacMulkin Chevrolet quoted the Chevy Tahoe for \$57,205.00, \$11,000.00 higher than the price quoted for the Tahoe in 2023 calendar year. The budget does not support the purchase of a Chevy Tahoe.

McFarland Ford quoted the Ford Explorer for \$47,775.00. \$2,000.00 for extended warranty, 5-year 100,000-mile warranty added to price.

McFarland Ford is a State of NH bid dealership for municipal vehicle purchases for the calendar year 2024.

I am asking the Rye Select Board to approve the sole source purchase of two 2024 Ford police Explorers for \$49,775.00 from McFarland Ford based on the following.

1. McFarland Ford being listed as a dealership registered on the NH State bid list.
2. McFarland Ford had pre-ordered the cruisers for the calendar year of 2024 and can provide cruisers April 1, 2024. There is no inventory of police cruisers at dealerships. Municipalities ordering police vehicles, 6 to 12 months wait. All car manufacturers make new vehicles at certain times of the year and inventory is next to none. McFarland Ford accepted delivery of white police cruisers March 19, 2024.
3. Rye police did not order a new cruiser in calendar year 2023. The milage on the duty cruisers has increased significantly. Repairs are now becoming frequent. Example Car 4 had a water pump replaced last week.
 - a. Car 2 milage 165,593 duty cruiser
 - b. Car 3 milage 68,506 duty cruiser
 - c. Car 4 milage 81,911 duty cruiser

The goal is to have the duty cruisers under 100,00 miles. These are the vehicles responding to emergencies. It is necessary emergency vehicles are in good working order. It is estimated if Rye accepts delivery of cruisers April 1st the dealer outfitting police cruisers estimates 3 to 6 months turn around. This is due to supply and demand of equipment, labor shortages, and Ryc 2 cruisers vs a fleet of 10 to 25 cruisers being outfitted at same

time. The business said because Rye has been a consistent customer over the years, they will fit Rye into assemble rotation.

Review the sole source request to purchase two Ford Explorer police cruisers from McFarland Ford,

1. Cruisers are available as of March 19, 2024.
2. McFarland Ford is on the State of NH list as a dealership approved for state bids for the purchasing of municipal vehicles.
3. The high mileage on the current duty cruisers and the turnaround time to outfit cruisers need to be done now to keep the police fleet in good working order, avoid high maintenance costs, escape having too many cruisers out for repairs at one time.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you for your support.

Cc: Town Administrator Matt Scruton
Assistant Town Administrator Becky Bergeron