



**TO:** Mayor Tom Ross  
Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Capt. Dale Plessas

**DATE:** May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**SUBJECT: BID AWARD AND BUDGET AMENDMENT – ROMOTE CONTROL ROBOT UPGRADE – BOMB SQUAD (2023200010)**

#### **I. RECOMMENDED ACTION**

- Recommend Council award the bid to Remotec, Inc in the amount of \$224,271.00.
- Recommend Council approve the proposed budget amendment on first reading.
- Authorize the Police Chief to sign any necessary documentation.

#### **II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS**

John Klug, Chief of Police	857-9800
Dale Plessas, Captain	857-9868

#### **III. DESCRIPTION**

##### Background

The Minot City Council previously approved the Minot Area Bomb Squads application to, and award of the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program, in the amount of \$220,000.00. Due to delays caused by the award and procurement process, the cost associated with this project has increased and the sole bid received was \$224,271.00, or \$4,271.00 over the project allotment. As a result, a budget amendment is being requested, from the operating budget of the Bomb Squad, in the amount of \$4,271.00 to account for the added expense.

##### Proposed Project

The Minot Area Bomb Squad was awarded the FY2023 State Homeland Security grant to upgrade the teams aging robot platform. The current Remotec Andros F6b platform is reaching the end of life and is considered obsolete. The proposed project would upgrade the existing platform to the Remotec Andros Spartan platform. This upgrade would refurbish the robot platform with state of the are equipment and extend the life of the platform for many years to come. Due to the considerable expense of purchasing a new system, upgrading to the current platform was determined to be the most economically viable option to maintaining our current remote capabilities.

##### Consultant Selection

N/A

#### **IMPACT:**

##### Strategic Impact:

The Minot Area Bomb Squad provides emergency response to a variety of hazardous devices and dangerous material incidents in the Minot region. Strategically placed bomb squads, such as the Minot Area Bomb Squad, are a critical component of the nation's homeland security plan. The

remote-control robot is a critical piece of equipment for observing, managing and mitigating hazardous situations. The robot platform is such a critical piece of safety equipment that it is required for FBI certification of the bomb squad.

**Service/Delivery Impact:**

The proposed project will revitalize an obsolete robot platform, transitioning it into a state-of-the-art platform that will provide increased performance, operability, and durability for years to come. This system will not only maintain the Bomb Squads' current capabilities but, with increased functionality, will increase them.

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Project Costs**

Proposed upgrade	\$224,271.00
Advertising charge	\$71.00

**Project Funding**

FY2023 State Homeland Security Grant Funding	
Capital Budget	<u>\$220,000.00</u>
	\$4,342.00

Recommend budget amendment of \$4,271.00 from the operational budget (10021000-46102) to the capital budget.

**V. CITY COUNCIL ASPIRATIONS**

Safe and Welcoming  
Resilient and Prepared

**VI. ALTERNATIVES**

The council could reject the bid acceptance and decide not to fund this project, resulting in the obsolete robot platform becoming inoperable at its end-of-life, resulting in reduction of bomb squad capabilities and potential loss of FBI certification.

The Council could decline the bid proposal and require the bomb squad look for other options to replace the obsolete robot, but this would result in further delay and likely result in higher equipment costs or reduction in robot system capability.

**VII. TIME CONSTRAINTS**

The proposed bid expires on June 10, 2024.

**VIII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Proposed Budget Adjustment**
- B. Remotec Bid**