

## **CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO**

### **RESOLUTION No. R23-02 CMS**

A RESOLUTION TO URGE THE LORAIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO RECONSIDER ITS REPEAL OF RESOLUTIONS NOS. 22-909 AND 22-910 AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CLEVELAND COMMUNICATIONS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE L3 HARRIS RADIO SYSTEM TO BE UTILIZED BY LORAIN COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AND FIRST RESPONDERS AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE

WHEREAS, the City of Oberlin (the “City”) provides fire, rescue, and first responder services for the residents of Oberlin and to Lorain County, often in conjunction with other governmental emergency service providers; and

WHEREAS, the ability to cross-communicate with governmental emergency service providers is essential to the efficient provision of safety and rescue services for Oberlin and other Lorain County communities; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2018, the Lorain County Board of Commissioners (the “Board of Commissioners”) passed Resolution No. 18-317 authorizing a contract with Mission Critical Partners (“MCP”) to conduct an independent assessment of Lorain County's analog and digital radio communications system; and

WHEREAS, in February 2019, MCP issued its Radio System Technical Assessment Final Report (the “MCP Report”) and concluded that the existing Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (“MARCS”) could not be upgraded to meet the requirements recommended by MCP in its present configuration, and recommended that a new radio communications system be acquired to replace the existing systems; and

WHEREAS, MCP recommended the procurement and use of a P25 Phase II trunked simulcast radio communications system that operates in the 700/800 MHz band; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners took no action on the recommendation of the MCP; and

WHEREAS, several Lorain County municipalities commissioned a comparison of the L3 Harris System with the existing MARCS; and

WHEREAS, the comparison report, completed in March 2021, demonstrates the advantages of the L3 Harris System over the existing MARCS in regard to system coverage, costs, and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the L3 Harris System is a P25 Phase II trunked simulcast 700/800 MHz digital radio communications system, used by federal, state, and local public safety organizations and first

responders and allows for interoperability of multi-agency communications during emergency situations and otherwise addresses the shortcomings revealed in the MCP Report; and

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2022, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolution No. 22-551, wherein it instructed its Clerk to advertise a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for the procurement of access to a P25 Phase II trunked simulcast 700/800 MHz radio communication system; and

WHEREAS, bids were submitted in response to the RFP by CCI and Vasu Communications, Inc; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by CCI was for the provision of the L3 Harris System; and

WHEREAS, MCP prepared a written evaluation of the bids submitted for the Board of Commissioners, where it recommended that the Board of Commissioners proceed with contract negotiations with CCI for the acquisition of the L3 Harris System; and

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2022, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolutions Nos. 22-909 and 22-910, which authorized entering into a contract with CCI for the purchase of the L3 Harris System and mobile, portable, and paging devices to be utilized by various Lorain County public safety organizations and first responders in conjunction with the L3 Harris System to be paid for by funds provided to the county under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, (“ARPA”); and

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2023, the newly constituted Board of Commissioners passed Temporary Resolution Nos. 23-15 and 23-16, which rescinded the contract with CCI for the purchase of the L3 Harris System and expressed its intent to rebid the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oberlin strongly supports its safety services providers and first responders and concurs in the recommendation of its police and fire chiefs for the acquisition and use of the L3 Harris System as the superior option for its uses use and in conjunction with other Lorain County public safety organizations; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, the Oberlin City Council passed Ordinance No. 23-21 AC CMS as an emergency measure to authorize the purchase of 18 L3 Harris System radios for use by its fire department as an emergency measure

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO:


SECTION 1: The City urges the Board of Commissioners to reconsider its rescission of the authorization of the purchase of the L3 Harris System to move forward with the purchase of the L3 Harris System for use by Lorain County public safety organizations and first responders.

SECTION 2: The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Clerk of the Lorain County Board of Commissioners forthwith.

SECTION 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of the citizens of the City of Oberlin, Ohio, or to provide for the usual daily operation of a municipal department, to wit: to facilitate the acquisition of county-wide compatible communications equipment by the Lorain County Board of Commissioners for use by public safety service organizations and provided that it is elevated to emergency status by the affirmative vote of at least five members of Council and receives the affirmative vote of at least five members of Council upon final passage, it shall go into full force and effect from and immediately after its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect on the earliest date allowed by law.

PASSED: 1st Reading: April 3, 2023  
2nd Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

  
BELINDA B. ANDERSON, MMC  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

  
BRYAN BURGESS  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

POSTED: 04/04/2023

EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/03/2023

I Belinda B. Anderson, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Clerk of Council, for said City of Oberlin of Lorain County, State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing, is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. R23-02 CMS as adopted on April 3, 2023.

Witness my hand and Official Seal at Oberlin, Ohio this 4th day of April 2023.

(Seal)



  
Clerk of Oberlin City Council