



Staff Report

Subject: Department Owned Firearms Sales

Department/Program: Police Department

Explanation:

We are in the process of training all police officers in the use of the AR-15 rifle and are outfitting each patrol vehicle with an AR-15 Rifle rather than the 12 Gauge Shotgun. (There will still be several vehicles, mostly supervisor vehicles, with the shotguns.)

While doing so we are replacing our aging rifles with new rifles that accommodate newer technologies. Seven were purchased through the 2021 budget and another six are budgeted for purchase in 2022.

Additionally, over the years the department had issued rifles to officers who requested them. This program is ending.

This process has created a surplus of 18 rifles and 28 shotguns.

A review of the City policy on Surplus Property Disposal states, in part, "Competitive selling of surplus, obsolete, or usable supplies is required."

It has been the practice of the police department to destroy all firearms that have been seized or recovered so they do not end up in the "wrong hands". Department owned firearms are a unique item. They were originally purchased by the City and still maintain a decent value. However, the uniqueness of the items makes their disposal a challenge.

Recommendation:

It is my recommendation that the rifles and shotguns be sold, via a lottery, to officers within the Ballwin Police Department. To accomplish this I am requesting an exception to the policy.

I have contacted John Henderson, General Manager of The Range, who inspected a sampling of our rifles and shotguns and has stated that a fair, wholesale price for the Colt brand rifles is \$500, the Armalite rifles is \$400 and the shotguns is \$250. (Email quote attached) The revenue from these sales can be used to offset the 2022 rifle purchase.

Submitted By: Col. Douglas W. Schaeffler, Chief of Police

Date: October 25, 2021
