



WATERFORD REGIONAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Matthew Covey, Fire Chief • Carl Wallace, Deputy Fire Chief • Wayne Peruski, Fire Marshal

Date: September 22nd, 2022

From: Fire Chief Matthew Covey

RE: Purchase request for KNOX KeySecure #5 Systems FD apparatus

Honorable Board Members,

I am requesting approval for the purchase of 25-KNOX KeySecure #5 through KNOX Company. This piece of equipment is used daily for rapid access to commercial buildings. The Knox-Box system is available to all businesses and homes in Waterford, Pontiac, and Lake Angelus. In addition, the International Fire Code requires a Knox-Box on “all buildings, new or existing, equipped with an automatic fire suppression system or fire alarm.” Property owners in Waterford, Pontiac and Lake Angelus place entrance keys, access cards and floor plans in these high-security Knox-Boxes mounted near their building entrances. The Knox-Box System reduces response time, property damage, assists in saving lives, and lessens the property damage the business or home would incur if we had to force entry into the building.

What you would see on a commercial Building:

KNOX-BOX holds Building Access Keys and other Items:



Currently the Waterford Regional Fire Department have **27** old technology KeySecures that are installed on all fire engines and ambulances, each one of these devices hold a KNOX Master Key. The current FD KeySecure system has met its life expectancy and is no longer supported by KNOX. Each FD employee has a unique pin code that they enter for the KNOX Master Key to be released from the KeySecure device. The device then stores the time, employee #, and key return time. Currently anytime we hire an employee, employee retirees or is released all 27 KNOX KeySecure devices must be physically touched and a new list downloaded into each device. This is extremely time consuming, and this system is no longer supported (the current devices were purchased in the early 2000's).

A new System is much easier to update as it uses WIFI Technology to update our user list. In addition, if we hire an employee, one retires or is released we can simply login into the KNOX system and add or erase an employee. This unit also stores the time, employee #, key return time, and allows easy access via a web-based platform.

The KeySecure provides us an accurate account for our Master Key use, ensures security to the hundreds of facilities we protect, which includes commercial, industrial, and residential structures. These facilities represent hundreds of millions in total value, not to mention the value of their contained inventory or data. All the facilities hold a high potential of causing serious disruption of services, economic commerce and or destruction of the critical infrastructure of this area, including that of a Homeland Security Issue. Therefore, this system is so important to our continuity of service and protection of our valued infrastructure.

Where will the funds come from: In 2021 a good friend of mine John Ubbes passed away at the age of 68. John was a "Waterford Man" inside and out and always talked highly of the fire fighters and the Waterford community. When John and I would get together he would always say that he wanted to do something for the firefighters. I would always tell him to just buy them a dinner or a dessert. Well unbeknownst to me, he decided that he was going to leave 7.5% of his estate to the fire department and another 7.5% to the library. As of today's date, we have received \$82,000 and will be receiving roughly another \$220,000 soon. John was a kind individual and would be proud to see his hard-earned money go to help the firefighters and our residents.

I have attached the current cost for the 25 KNOX KeySecure #5's needed to update our fleet:

The **per unit Cost is \$973.00** for a **total Cost of \$24,780.00** which includes shipping.

I am asking for this to be a single source purchase as there are no other options and we are updating only the fire department side of the system. I am also, requesting that the board of trustees approve this purchase and amend the following line-items:

1. To purchase through KNOX Company using the 2022 Fire department Budget line-item Capital Equipment & Personal Property 20630-97125 in the amount of \$24,780.
2. Also transfer \$24,780 from 20601-67408-FD0N1 "John Ubbes" account to the line-item Capital Equipment & Personal Property 20630-97125.

Respectfully Submitted,



Fire Chief Matt Covey

