



BANGOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

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TO: Finance Committee

FR: Mark Hathaway

RE: Request to Purchase a New Police Canine

DT: December 17, 2014

The police department is requesting permission to purchase a new police canine for the purpose of replacing canine Havoc, who was recently retired from service.

In the past the police department has purchased canines from breeders who have provided assurances as they relate to the health and quality of the canine. We seek the same with our next purchase but also wish to purchase a canine with meaningful drive, temperament and training capacity. It is in our best interest to purchase a canine with proven standards of quality and exhibits the ability to perform as a police canine in various stressful situations without hesitation. To do that we must purchase our next canine from a proven breeder/trainer who has previous clients that we can contact.

We seek approval to have continued contact, with an intent to make a future purchase, with a Gorham, Maine based company that purposely trains canines for police, military and personal protection purposes. The company has provided trained police canines to the Portland, Freeport, Ellsworth and Presque Isle police departments in the past two years. It is our intent to utilize this canine for patrol work which essentially involves searching for people, searching for drugs, searching for articles of importance (evidence) and officer protection.

Any purchase will require documented medical assessments of the canine, training certifications and a minimum one year guarantee that the canine can perform effectively as a police canine.

Our request is to use up to \$8,000 of drug seizure money, which is available, for this purpose. If this action is acceptable to the Committee, staff will prepare the Council Resolve to appropriate the funds for this purpose.