



## ***City Council Memorandum***

**To:** Mayor Fasbender & City Council Members

**From:** Bryan D. Schafer, Chief of Police

**Date:** June 1, 2020

**Item:** Body-Worn Camera Program

**Council Action Requested:**

Provide an opportunity for public comment regarding implementation of new body cameras and change in vendors.

**Background Information:**

The Hastings Police Department began exploring the use of body-worn cameras in early 2015, followed by a pilot in 2016 and full implementation in 2017. Since then, the cameras have proven extremely beneficial on a number of fronts, to include but not limited to evidentiary value in case reporting, investigation of officer complaints, and Use of Force Review. Due to current cameras reaching their end of life cycle and increased maintenance costs, council approved the purchase of new body-worn cameras, including change of vendor for the 2020 Budget. Subsequently, HPD purchased new devices and technology platform from Axon Technologies. In order to proceed and go “live”, we must comply with MN Statute regarding public comment.

**Minn. Stat. 626.8473, subd. 2. Public comment.**

A local law enforcement agency must provide an opportunity for public comment before it purchases or implements a portable recording system. At a minimum, the agency must accept public comments submitted electronically or by mail, and the governing body with jurisdiction over the budget of the law enforcement agency must provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled meeting.

In addition to this opportunity, we are soliciting comment in the news section of our website homepage at [www.hastingsmn.gov](http://www.hastingsmn.gov)

**Financial Impact:**

Full implementation costs have been included in the HPD 2020 annual budget.

**Advisory Commission Discussion:**

None

**Council Committee Discussion:**

Review and recommendation by the Finance Committee of the Council 10/2019

**Attachments:**

None