

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY COUNCIL
August 27, 2002

To: Mayor and City Council

From: George J. Rodericks, City Manager

SUBJECT: CITY CARILLON BELLS

BACKGROUND

In 1975, the City purchased Schulmerich Electric Carillon Bells for the City as the City's contribution to the Bicentennial Celebration. The bells are scheduled to chime on the hour from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and play selected music every three hours.

FINDINGS

For more than 20 years, the carillon bells functioned properly and provided the community with music. However, over the past few years, the bells have begun to function intermittently and have become unpredictable in their maintenance. The Villa Park Women's League conducted an inspection of the carillons by a licensed contractor and determined that the bells have an electrical problem that would be costly to repair, if repair was possible at all. In addition, the electrical problem could become a potential fire hazard.

As a result, the Women's League discussed replacement of the carillons as a project. In early 2002, the Women's League approved replacement of the bells and purchased a new Novabell Generation 4 Schulmerich Carillon Bell Set. The City accepted delivery of the new carillons in July 2002. The Women's League will arrange for the installation of the new set of carillons and work with staff to facilitate a dedication.

The Novabell Generation 4 Carillon Bell set produces high quality rich sounds from proprietary digital technology running on a high-speed digital signal processor. The processor incorporates a 16-bit CD-quality system producing 48-note, four-channel polyphonic output. Upon removal of the existing set, the new carillons can be fit into the City's records area and connected to 4 new roof mounted speakers.

FISCAL IMPACT

When placed on the City's fixed asset list, the 1975 carillons had a value of \$4,348.80. The carillon bell system had a useful life of approximately 20 years assuming normal wear and maintenance. The carillons have been in operation for 27 years.

The new Schulmerich Carillon Bells have a value of approximately \$8,500 and will be donated to the City by the Villa Park Women's League.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council declare the Schulmerich Electric Carillon Bells, Serial No. 23906, purchased in 1975 as surplus and direct the City Manager to arrange for their disposal.

Primary methods of disposal to the general public are recognized as direct sale, sealed bid, trade-in or auction. Other methods of disposal to the general public must be clearly detailed in writing and must have the consent of the City Council. The City Council may transfer a surplus asset to another public agency upon written request and a determination that it is in the public interest to do so. Such a request must specify the asset and the inability of the agency to otherwise afford to buy it. The City Council may elect to trade assets, authorize the City Manager to negotiate payment or transfer it without compensation.