



## Waynesboro City Council Agenda Briefing

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>April 24, 2023</b>	<b>Staff/Council Member(s):</b> <b>Michael G. Hamp II, City Manager/</b> <b>Michael D. Wilhelm, Assistant City</b> <b>Manager – Public Safety</b>
<b>Agenda Item #</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>Resolution#</b>		
<b>Department:</b>	<b>City Manager’s Office</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SAW Radio Project Overview and Memorandum of Understanding</b>	

**Background:** The SAW Regional Radio System has been a work in progress for over two years. The City of Staunton has served as the procurement agent for the project. The project’s purpose is to upgrade and replace the three localities individual analog conventional radio systems with a P25 compliant trunked digital radio system that will service all three localities for public safety, public schools, and public works. Analog radio systems are being slowly phased out and are being replaced with more efficient and functional trunked digital technology. The system in Waynesboro was built in 1990. It has had several upgrades over the last thirty-three years. Our local system has several major components that need to be upgraded as do our SAW partners. The APCO P25 standard ensures interoperability between radio systems and proprietary and disparate systems are being replaced to become compliant. The system being procured is being designed as a fifteen-year system before any major replacement or upgrades would be required. The procurement process has followed state rules and standards and the solicitation attracted four vendors. Following a comprehensive evaluation, the multi-jurisdictional workgroup unanimously agreed to make an intent to award to L3 Harris Corporation based in Lynchburg Virginia for a six site, seven channel, P25 phase 2, trunked digital radio system.

In preparation for final contract negotiations, signing, and purchase order issuance, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is required to clearly identify how the system will be procured, what will be procured collectively between SAW, and what will be procured individually by each jurisdiction. A fiscal agent for the joint system procurement will need to be identified for the initial purchase and ongoing maintenance as well as the license holder for the system. Additionally, the MOU will identify a regional management board and an agreement for operating standards.

The SAW regional radio system will provide significant improvements to our public safety radio system. It will increase coverage, enhance interoperability, and ensure that our first responders have a system that will ensure their safety when responding to an emergency call.

**City Manager’s Recommendation:** The City Manager would recommend receiving an overview of the project by the Director of the Department of Emergency Management and EMS, Gary Critzer.

**Suggested Motion(s):** A motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding for the Staunton, Augusta County and Waynesboro regional radio project.