



Valdosta City Council

216 East Central Ave
Valdosta, GA 31601

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 05/19/22 05:30 PM
Department: Police Department
Category: Purchase
Prepared By: Leslie Manahan
Initiator: Leslie Manahan

AGENDA ITEM NO. (ID # 3372)

DOC ID: 3372 A

Consideration of a request to purchase a Hydrogen Generator for the Valdosta-Lowndes Regional Crime Laboratory.

BUDGET IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE: Budget line #CP22.20 CR.9.PD AOC-6000 Plus Headspace Autosampler/Rack, \$36,000 from the General Fund in the current year Budget.

HISTORY: The Valdosta-Lowndes Regional Crime Laboratory uses several types of gases to operate several pieces of equipment, to include the Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometers and the Gas Chromatograph Flame Ionization Detectors. This is the equipment that is used for drug identification and blood alcohol testing. The gases include, but are not limited to Hydrogen, Helium, and Zero Air. For over ten years, the equipment has been using Helium as the carrier gas.

FACTS AND ISSUES: The laboratory has been renting tanks of these gases from AirGas. Over the past couple of years, the laboratory has seen an increase in the rental cost. The laboratory contacted AirGas recently, to refill their Helium order. The laboratory was advised that there is a shortage of Helium worldwide. AirGas advised that even if tanks of Helium were available, they would go to medical services first at an increased cost. Without the gas, the equipment will not be able to be used for analysis.

The laboratory received three quotes for the generator, but only one of the quotes met the specifications. The laboratory received a quote from PEAK Scientific in the amount of \$33,502.40. This generator will give the laboratory the ability to generate Hydrogen and Zero Air constantly; therefore, they will no longer need to rent