

**Donald J. Lee, Jr.**  
**Chief of Police**



**Key West**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mr. Jim Scholl, City Manager

**FROM:** Donald J. Lee Jr., Chief of Police

**DATE:** March 11, 2011

**RE:** Authorize the purchase of (2) 2011 Mercury 250 HP Opti-Max outboard engines from Murray Marine for a total of \$26,778.00 to re-power the KWPD 27' "Safeboat". Authorize the trade-in of two 2003 Mercury 250 HP EFI outboard engines from the Safeboat for \$5,000.00 to be applied toward the purchase of the new motors. Total purchase price: \$21,778.00

**Action Statement:**

This resolution authorizes the purchase of (2) 2011 Mercury 250HP Opti-Max outboard engines from Murray Marine at a total cost of \$26,778.00: The trade of two 2003 250HP Mercury EFI Outboard engines on the boat now to Murray Marine for \$5,000.00. This purchase is authorized through City Ordinance Section 7-797(4) (b). Formal competitive bidding procedures for acquisitions which exceed \$20,000.00 were substituted with three (3) written competitive quotes from Murray Marine, Fish and Race and Sea Center.

**Background:**

The 2004 27' Safeboat was acquired as a direct result of the terror attack of 9/11 and was purchased with Department of Homeland Security grants and is fully owned by the City of Key West. The vessel has been deployed to support Port Security and Homeland Security requirements as set forth by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the United States Coast Guard. When the MARSEC security threat level is elevated to MARSEC 3, the highest level, the Safeboat is deployed 24 hours a day for waterside security of cruise ships and to meet other mission specific requirements. In addition, this vessel conducts periodic marine sanitation inspections, fishery violation inspections and marine safety inspections. It also supplements and assists other agencies with security requirements for U.S. and visiting foreign nation naval ships as required.

**Purpose and Justification:**



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The existing motors on the boat are out of warranty and are at the end of their commercial government service life. New marine technology and the advancements in outboard engine production have rendered this model of engine obsolete. The 2011 Mercury Opti-Max are low fuel and low emission two stroke motors. Since the boat is currently rigged with Mercury engines, the cost of labor and rigging is greatly reduced. The old engines will be taken off and the new engines mounted and rigged using the existing cables, gauges, propellers, and steering. These two new engines will be used to re-power the 27' Safeboat currently in use by the KWPD Marine Unit. The two new engines described are necessary to maintain the reliability and readiness of this vessel.

Engine specifications and cost are as follows:

(2) Mercury Marine 250HP Opti-Max two cycle outboard engines, 30" shafts, model XXL and CXXL, V6, counter rotating left hand engine (CXXL). The manufacturer, Mercury Marine holds the state contract for Outboard engines. The prices quoted by Murray Marine are the current state contract prices. While we are not purchasing the engines pursuant to state contract, all authorized Mercury dealers are eligible to purchase engines at the state contract price.

#### **Options:**

One option is to purchase the two engines from Murray Marine, the low bidder, which will allow for the City of Key West to buy the needed engines properly configured and with the exact specifications required at the lowest cost to the City of Key West. The purchase of these engines will provide the Marine Unit with the reliability and performance necessary to deliver efficient and professional police marine services vital to our community.

Another option is to not purchase the new engines to re-power this vessel and keep the existing motors on the vessel. Since the engines are now out of warranty and the wear and tear on these motors significantly increases the risk of a major mechanical failure this option is not recommended. Any such mechanical failure would result in repair bills in the thousands of dollars. The warranties on the new engines eliminates this risk.

#### **Financial Impact:**

The FY 10/11 Police Capital Budget included an appropriation for the purchase of these engines in the amount of \$22,019.00. With the trade of the two used engines the total expenditure for this item will total \$21,778.00 which is \$241.00 under budget. Considering the number of hours on the current



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motors, their use as government commercial with the resulting high degree of wear and tear, the police department considers the trade in value of the used engines competitive and reasonable under these circumstances.

The quote for the two new engines before trade by Fish and Race (\$26,167.50) is \$610.50 lower than the Murray Marine quote (\$26,778.00). However, Fish and Race is not willing to take the used engines in trade. After the \$5000.00 trade allowance from Murray for the two used engines their quote is \$4,389.00 lower than Fish and Race.

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends option #1, the purchase of two engines from Murray Marine including the trade in of the existing motors for a total of \$21,778.00.



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