

AMENDED ITEM—JANUARY 6, 2020

REGULAR AGENDA:

4. Sheriff's Office request for budget adjustment to purchase v-plow snow blade

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Move to authorize a budget adjustment for the purchase of a v-plow snow blade in the amount of \$3,487.89 for the Cass County Sheriff's Office.



www.casscountynd.gov

Office of the Sheriff

Jesse Jahner, Sheriff

January 3rd, 2020

Mary Scherling
Portfolio Commissioner
Cass County Commission
Cass County Courthouse

Re: Purchase of a V-Plow Snow Blade

Chairman Chad Peterson,

I am requesting \$3,487.89 dollars as a 2020 budget increase adjustment to purchase a V-Plow Snow Blade for our Ford F-250 Search and Rescue Vehicle.

Since January 2019, Cass County has experienced three major snowstorms. These snowstorms have caused extreme challenges in the Sheriff's Offices ability to provide public safety by increasing response times and limiting our ability to respond to citizen complaints and medical emergencies. Because of these storms, we have had to stage County Road Department Personnel so that we could be escorted, by the use of their snowplows, to emergencies and other calls for service. On December 29th, 2019 Cass County experienced a heavy snowstorm with heavy snow accumulations. During this storm, deputies were dispatched to a report of a physical domestic involving a husband, wife and their small child. The wife was reporting that she was physically assaulted and that she and their child were now hiding in the bathroom. The wife called 911, requesting law enforcement assistance, stating that the husband was trying to break down the bathroom door to get to them. The incident occurred south of Cass Highway 16 west of I-29. When deputies responded they could not make it to the residence because roads were snow-covered. I contacted the County Road Department requesting a snowplow. A County Road Department Employee responded in a pickup truck with a front-mounted V-Plow Snow Blade and was immediately able to plow a path so that we could get to the residence. The Initial report of the domestic was called in at 8:36 p.m. and two hours later, at 10:35 p.m, Deputies were finally able to get on the scene. In another example, The Good Samaritan Center in Arthur requested medical assistance for a resident who was staying their. Once again, because of snow covered roads, the North Dakota Department of Transportation had to be called to escort an ambulance to the scene.

As Sheriff, I believe that we need to become more self-sufficient in responding to public safety issues in these types of conditions. I believe adding a V-Plow Snow Blade to one of our response vehicles will assist with that effort. The Cass County Sheriff's Office budgeted \$3,850.00 for a plow for 2020 but with the types of situations we have encountered, I feel that the solution is a V-Plow Snow Blade which costs \$7,337.89, \$3,487.89 dollars more than the \$3,850.00 I had initially budgeted for.

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450 34th Street South
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Office of the Sheriff

Jesse Jahner, Sheriff

Motion to authorize a budget adjustment for the purchase of a V-Plow Snow Blade in the amount of \$3,487.89 for the Cass County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Jahner".

Jesse Jahner, Sheriff
Cass County Sheriff's Office
Fargo, ND 58103

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