# PURCHASE OF ELECTION EQUIPMENT

RS-19-082 August 20, 2019

## Background

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- Bell County is only required to provide election equipment in odd-numbered years.
- ES&S (election equipment supplier) notified city staff that due to aging equipment, the cost of renting equipment would increase and they could not guarantee the availability of equipment for the 2020 election.

## Purchase of Election Equipment

- The cost of the lease/purchase 5-year term option is \$187,426.25. The city will make an annual payment in the amount of \$37,485.25 (3.99% interest) for the next five (5) years.
- Annual post-warranty license and maintenance and support fees in the amount of \$6,435.00 will begin the second year of the lease/purchase.
- ES&S is a member of the Texas Buyboard and this lease/purchase is in compliance with state and local law purchasing requirements.

#### Alternatives

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- Pay the higher rental cost without the guarantee that there would be enough election equipment to supply to all of the polling locations.
- Eliminate the use of election equipment in evennumbered years, resulting in having to manually count all of the ballots.
- Procure election equipment from ES&S through Texas Buyboard.

### Recommendation

City staff recommends that city council approve the procurement of the election equipment through the Texas Buyboard, and that the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to execute any change orders as permitted by state and local law.