



Legislation Text

File #: 1615-2014, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND: “Tucker” a police horse that has been in service with the Division of Police’s Mounted Unit since September of 2013 needs to be retired.

Tucker was accepted as a donation and appeared to be street worthy. He has not responded to training and has become unpredictable when deployed on the street. This has created a risk of injury to the officer riding Tucker and to citizens as well, which could create a liability for the Division and the City. It would be in the best interest of the Division to take Tucker out of service and retire him.

It is recommended that Tucker be sold to Officer Ron Zaleski, who is Tucker’s last rider.

Additionally, the Division of Police Legal Bureau has developed a general release document that relinquishes the City of Columbus from any liability as it relates to the post retirement care and control of “Tucker”, and assigns that liability to Officer Ron Zaleski.

FISCAL IMPACT:

At this time there are no plans to replace this donated horse.

To authorize and direct the Finance and Management Director to sell to Officer Ron Zaleski, for the sum of \$1.00, a police horse with the registered name of “Tucker” which has no further value to the Division of Police and to waive the provisions of City Code-Sale of City-owned personal property.

WHEREAS, “Tucker” has been a Mounted Unit horse with the Division of Police since September of 2013; and

WHEREAS, Tucker was accepted as a donation and appeared to be street worthy; and

WHEREAS, "Tucker" has not responded to training and has become unpredictable when deployed on the street; and

WHEREAS, This has created a risk of injury to the officer riding Tucker and to citizens as well, which could create a liability for the Division and the City.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to allow this horse to be purchased by Officer Ron Zaleski for the sum of \$1.00; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

Section 1. That the Finance and Management Director is hereby authorized and directed to sell a police horse with the registered name of “Tucker” to Officer Ron Zaleski for the sum of \$1.00.

Section 2. That the Council of the City of Columbus finds it is in the best interests of the City that City Code 329.26 - Sale of City-owned personal property, be and is hereby waived to permit the sale of this specific horse to Officer Ron Zaleski.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.