

RESOLUTION NO. 16-\_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE BILLINGS, MONTANA CITY  
COUNCIL ADOPTING A CITY-WIDE PURCHASING POLICY

WHEREAS, the City of Billings Purchasing Policy was officially adopted in 2006;  
and

WHEREAS, the City purchases a substantial amount of goods and services each  
year through its various departments and agencies; and

WHEREAS, state law requirements regarding municipal contracts have changed  
since 2006; and

WHEREAS, the City of Billings has a Purchasing Policy, as well as a procedures  
manual outlining the various methods of appropriate procurement practices used by the  
City of Billings in order to provide for an efficient and equitable system of public  
purchasing by the City; to obtain the maximum purchasing value of public funds in  
procurement by the City, and to provide for a procurement system of quality and integrity;  
and

WHEREAS, the new *City of Billings Purchasing Procedures* are being adopted  
contemporaneously by Administrative Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF BILLINGS, MONTANA, AS FOLLOWS:

That the City of Billings hereby adopts the *2016 City of Billings Purchasing Policy*  
which is set forth in Attachment 'A'. All prior versions of the City of Billings Purchasing  
Policies are repealed, revoked and superseded thereby.

APPROVED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Billings, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day  
of February, 2016.

CITY OF BILLINGS:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas W. Hanel, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billie Guenther, City Clerk

Attachment "A"

**CITY OF BILLINGS**  
**PURCHASING**  
**POLICY**

**February 2016**

## **Introduction**

In order to provide an efficient purchasing program built on excellence and expertise it is important that all personnel (Citywide) function as a team with cooperation as the essential element. Those individuals whose duties require them to become a part of the purchasing cycle must be completely acquainted with the program and have a clear definition and understanding of its purposes, insofar as it applies to the procurement of materials, supplies, equipment and professional services at the lowest possible cost consistent with the quality needed for the operation of municipal departments.

## **Policy Summary**

The City of Billings Purchasing Policy establishes an efficient, fiscally responsible, centralized purchasing system, a program, which will effectively provide day-to-day service and support citywide. This policy recognizes and addresses the importance of the overall support mission and the need for maximizing and enhancing whenever possible, the value of each tax dollar expended.

The City of Billings requires departments, divisions, units and City personnel to cooperate fully in their adherence to policy and procedure related to the Purchasing Policy and Procedures as adopted by the City Council and/or the City Administrator.

## **Personnel Behavior according to Purchasing Policy**

1. City of Billings personnel will govern themselves in a manner that is consistent with the Code of Ethics, City Codes and Resolutions.
2. The Purchasing Policy and accompanying procedures are created to promote and cultivate at all personnel levels within the City of Billings goodwill and good business relationships with vendors in order to establish equity and protect the public interest in such a way that enhances the City's reputation for impartiality, courtesy, ethical department, service, and economy.
3. The Purchasing Policy and accompanying procedures assure that all purchases receive the benefit of competition to the maximum extent practicable, through the use of formal sealed bids, quotes, proposals, cost verification methods, and other recognized and professionally acceptable methods of procurement that accrues positive benefit to the City of Billings.

### **I. Purpose**

This policy establishes efficient procedures and guidelines shall be created and maintained to aid each department of the City of Billings in monitoring its own compliance and commitment to authorizing, approving and processing expenditures.

## **II. Scope**

- II.1. This policy supersedes all previous City of Billings purchasing policies. If future policies conflict with or supersede parts of this policy, the remaining sections of the policy will stay in effect.
- II.2. The policy and accompanying procedures apply to all City of Billings departments and divisions. It applies to ALL types of expenditures.
- II.3. Public procurement functions essentially share primary fundamental goals such as obtaining maximum value for each tax dollar expended and establishing systematic, consistent and fiscally responsible accountability and control over all purchases.
- II.4. The City of Billings Finance Department is responsible for maintaining overall control and implementation of the policy and accompanying procedures.
- II.5. The City Council approves the Purchasing Policy and the City Administrator establishes the Purchasing Procedures of the City of Billings through Administrative Order.

## **III. Policy Statement**

- III.1. It is the policy of the City of Billings to obtain maximum value for each tax dollar expended in the purchase of goods and services, and to establish systematic, consistent and fiscally responsible accountability and control over all City purchases.
- III.2. This policy and accompanying procedures apply to all activities, including the City's State and Federally-funded programs or grants and other entities under the authority of the City Administrator and/or City Council. It includes but is not limited to the acquisition of:
  - Equipment
  - Merchandise
  - Materials
  - Professional services
  - Other services
  - Construction contracts
- III.3. This policy and accompanying procedures are in compliance with all Federal and State laws as they may apply.

- III.4. Those who fail to comply with this policy and accompanying procedures may be subject to disciplinary action.
- III.5. This policy will be used in conjunction with the policies in place for the Capitalization Policy/CIP, the Equipment Replacement Plan (ERP), and the Technology Replacement Plan (TRP).
- III.6. Upon adoption of this policy, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to establish any procedures and standards necessary for implementation.
- III.7. The City Administrator will review this policy at least every two years and make recommendations for changes to the City Council.