
Purpose

This policy sets forth guidelines governing the disposal of abandoned, surplus and forfeited property.

Policy

It is the policy of the Bemidji Police Department to dispose of abandoned, surplus and forfeited property in accordance with all local, state and federal laws.

Definitions

Abandoned Property –Property which has been abandoned and/or where the rightful owner cannot be contacted or does not respond to official notice within 60 days shall be subject to disposal.

Surplus Property –Property owned by the City of Bemidji and utilized by the Bemidji Police Department must be deemed surplus by the Bemidji City Council before it may be disposed of.

Forfeited Property –Property which has been administratively or judicially forfeited according to state and federal statutes.

Procedure –

The disposal, reissue or sale of abandoned, surplus and forfeited property will be at the discretion of the chief of police.

- A. Sales – Abandoned, surplus and forfeited property selected for sale will be made available to the public through;
 - a. Live auctions which will be held after publishing a notice of the auction including time and place of the auction and the property to be sold. The auction will be held no sooner than 2 weeks after the notice.
 - b. Online auctions may take place at any time as the public notice is continually present on the City of Bemidji website.
 - i. Proceeds from any sales with be held in the city treasury according to state and federal laws.
- B. Re-issue - Abandoned, surplus and forfeited property selected for reissue will be made available to other city departments.

Restrictions

- A. No vehicle forfeited by the Bemidji Police Department will be sold to: (1) an officer or employee of the agency that seized the property or to a person related to the officer or employee by blood or marriage; or (2) the prosecuting authority or any individual working in the same office or a person related to the authority or individual by blood or marriage. 169A.63subd. 10(c)
- B. No vehicle forfeited by the Bemidji Police Department will available for re-issue to other City of Bemidji departments according to state and federal statutes.

Reference or Revision Date(s):

- A. City Of Bemidji Ordinances – Chapter 2, Article VI. Finance
- B. Minnesota Statutes §169A.63

REVISION DATE(S):