



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: 8/20/2013
REGULAR
ITEM #: 11

AGENDA ITEM: Water Meter Conversions – Sensus to Neptune
SUBMITTED BY: Cathy Bendel, Finance Director
THROUGH: Cathy Bendel, Finance Director
REVIEWED BY: Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Introduction of Item City Staff
- Report/Presentation.....City Staff, Northland Securities
- Questions from Council to Staff.....Mayor Facilitates
- Public Input, if Appropriate.....Mayor Facilitates
- Call for Motion.....Mayor & City Council
- Discussion.....Mayor & City Council
- Action on Motion.....Mayor Facilitates

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED: At the July 2, 2013 City Council meeting, the City Council approved the 2013 CIP which included the purchase of additional Neptune Meters in order to continue the conversion from Sensus Water Meters to Neptune Water Meters. It is recommended that the City Council approve the purchase of additional Neptune water meters to continue to convert from the Sensus water meters to the Neptune water meters.

“Move to Approve the Purchase of up to _____ water meters as a cost not to exceed \$ _____”

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In the summer of 2006 the decision was made to convert from the Sensus water meters to the Neptune brand of water meters. New software and hardware were purchased and at that time it was decided to convert over the meters in waves in order to audit and monitor the process. Approximately 600 meters were converted in multiple groups in addition to individual conversions as the older meters have had issues. There are currently 321 meters left to be converted.

STAFF REPORT: As requested in the CIP process, Finance would like to convert the remaining meters to the Neptune platform to avoid duplicate service and maintenance fees each year. The old meter reader battery will not hold a charge and we have had to borrow a reader from a neighboring community since neither a replacement meter reader nor a better can be found. With the hiring of a part-time resource, the hope is to do the conversions internally this fall.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council approve the purchase of additional Neptune water meters to continue to convert from the Sensus water meters to the Neptune water meters.

“Move to Approve the Purchase of up to _____ water meters as a cost not to exceed \$ _____”

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Ferguson Waterworks quote