

Agenda Report



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, September 24, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR LINDBERG
WATER PROJECT MANAGER BRANDENBURG

SUBJECT: BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER WITH AQUA-METRIC SALES
COMPANY FOR WATER METERS AND READING EQUIPMENT
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$700,000 FOR TWO (2)
YEARS FROM THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Water Division staff recommends the authorization of a blanket purchase order with Aqua-Metric Sales Company in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 for water meters and reading equipment.

BACKGROUND:

About 30% of the City's large commercial and multi-residential water meters need to be updated to modern standards. The proposed purchase would achieve this goal over the next two years.

DISCUSSION:

The Water Division is responsible for reading and maintaining the City's water meters and meter reading equipment. The City uses Sensus USA, Inc. as the sole source vendor for the City's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) water meter reading system (i.e. water meter reading equipment and meter reading hardware and software).

Sensus USA, Inc. has awarded Aqua-Metric Sales Company the exclusive franchise area rights to Northern California to provide Sensus water meter reading equipment and services. The ability for the City to use Aqua-Metric Sales Company as a vendor will complement the City's existing Sensus AMI meter reading system with capabilities such as reading pressure, temperature, flow and the ability shut off water services remotely. No other meter manufacturers can connect to the City's existing AMI two-way meter reading system, so no other quotes were obtained.

This purchase of equipment is exempt from the City's formal written competitive bidding requirements for purchases exceeding \$100,000 under Article 4 of Chapter 5 (Purchasing Procedures) of Title 3 (Finance) of the Watsonville Municipal Code. The specific exemption is subdivision (c) of Section 3-5.210 "equipment, supplies or

nonprofessional services are unique, available only from one (1) source, or sought to match existing equipment or supplies already in use (also known as a sole source purchase)” and also under subdivision d) “Equipment, supplies or nonprofessional services have been uniformly adopted or otherwise standardized in the City. In this case, evidence for the standardization shall be documented and maintained as a public record and approved by the Purchasing Officer before the purchase and then at least once every five (5) years”

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The project is consistent with the following Strategic Plan goal:
02 – Infrastructure & Environment

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The total cost for this purchase is \$700,000. This project is included in the current adopted Water Enterprise budget 0720-913-7833-15117 for fiscal year 24/25 & projected fiscal year 25/26

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

1. Sensus Statement: Awarded Franchise