


CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

DATE: June 12, 2018

TO: Ed Lavallee, ICMA-CM, MPA, City Manager

FROM: Javier Vargas, Utilities Director 

COUNCIL DATE: July 10, 2018

SUBJECT: **Water Meters – Large Meter Replacement Ph 1
Sole Source Purchase (National Meter & Automation)**

Background:

The City of Venice initiated a comprehensive water meter replacement program over 10 years ago. Large Meter Replacement Phase one of this capital project will continue the Utilities' ongoing efforts to upgrade the existing radio read meters (Automatic Meter Reading) to Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology. The replacement of meters is required due to their age and serviceability. Water meters have a useful life of 10 to 12 years after which the accuracy may diminish. Utilities included a capital project in FY 2018 to start replacement of the oldest of these larger meters. A total of 201 large water meters will be replaced as part of this year's project (phase 1).

Benefits: This project offers the following benefits:

- Improve the efficiency of meter reading and water billing.
- Increase the quality of customer service by eliminating the need for estimated bills.
- Water meters will be replaced in existing properties at no cost to the owner.
- The new system will include automatic meter reading technology that will save staff time, prevent recording errors, eliminate estimated readings, minimize the need for personnel to go on the property.
- The meter reading system provides the ability to detect if a leak is occurring in the customer's plumbing system.

Sole Source Purchase:

Badger Meter is the manufacturer used by Utilities. National Meter & Automation [previously Innovative Metering Solutions (IMS)] is the sole source vendor for Badger Meter in this area. Utilities currently has a sole source purchase agreement with IMS for fiscal year 2018 to allow the purchase of water meters needed for new water service connections and replacing damaged meters.

The anticipated cost for these meters is \$163,730.43.

Requested Action:

The Utilities Department requests Council's approval for the purchase of 201 meters from of National Meter & Automation in the amount of \$163,730.43 for fiscal year 2018.

City Attorney Review:

N/A

Risk Management Review:

N/A

Funds Availability (account number):

Based on Council's approval, funds are available in account number 421-1202-536.63-00.