Date: October 22, 2026

Department: Public Works Department

Presenter: Craig Leseberg

Subject: Wellhouse Emergency Generator Purchase Award

Purpose:

To award the wellhouse emergency generator purchase award to Western States Equipment Company.

Background:

The Town of Alpine was awarded an $89,000 Homeland Security grant to assist with the wellhouse emergency generator project. The Town has budgeted a total of $140,000 for the project, including the grant. The existing generator is undersized and can operate only one well during a power outage.

Two proposals were received for the generator and transfer switch: Western States Equipment Company quoted $95,410 for a Caterpillar 300 kW diesel generator and ASCO transfer switch; Rod's Diesel and Generator Service Inc. quoted $114,709 for a Cummins 300 kW diesel generator and transfer switch. Western States' proposal is $19,299 lower.

Staff consulted Jorgensen and recommends awarding the bid to Western States. Its proposal lists a 60-month Platinum generator warranty and a 24-month standby transfer-switch warranty, compared with Rod's two-year base generator warranty and one-year comprehensive transfer-switch warranty. Western States includes freight to the first destination, startup, owner training, and a generator lead time of 25–27 weeks.

Alternatives:

Option A — Award the Purchase to Western States

- **Benefits Include:**
  - Provides the generator and transfer switch at the lower quoted price of $95,410.
  - Includes longer stated generator and transfer-switch warranties.

    - Moves the wellhouse backup-power project forward.
    - Includes freight, startup services, and owner training.
- Challenges Include:
    - Installation and concrete pad work remain additional project costs.
    - Generator lead time is approximately 25–27 weeks.
    - Separate RFPs are needed to establish the remaining project costs.

Option B — Defer the Purchase Award

Benefits Include:

- Allows additional time to consider the proposals and remaining project costs.
- Challenges Include:
- Delays ordering and delivery of the generator.
- May affect the project schedule and grant deadlines.
- The wellhouse would continue to rely on an undersized generator that can operate only one well.

Fiscal Impact: The total project budget is $140,000, including the $89,000 Homeland Security grant. The Town's budgeted share is $51,000. The proposed generator and transfer-switch purchase is $95,410.

The prior staff report identified $4,500 spent on Musgrove Engineering services. Including that expense and the proposed purchase, identified costs total $99,910, leaving $40,090 within the project budget for installation, concrete pad work, and other project expenses.

All installation and concrete pad work will cost extra. Separate RFPs for this work will be issued in the near future, and staff will return to Council with costs and award recommendations. An existing pad is available but may need to be enlarged.

Financial Consideration 1: The $95,410 quote covers the generator and transfer switch purchase and the vendor services listed in the proposal. It is not the total installed project cost.

Financial Consideration 2: If the combined project costs exceed the approved $140,000 budget, staff will return to Council to identify additional funding before authorizing the overage.

Strategic or Community Impact:

The emergency generator will support reliable drinking-water service and maintain critical wellhouse operations during power outages. The project strengthens the Town's emergency preparedness and helps protect the health, safety, and welfare of Alpine residents and visitors.

Key Questions

1. Should Council approve the generator and transfer-switch purchase from Western States for $95,410?

Suggested Motion:

I move to approve the purchase of one 300 kW emergency generator and 600-amp automatic transfer switch for the Town wellhouse from Western States Equipment Company in the amount of $95,410, as described in Quote 31729986 dated September 24, 2026, and authorize staff to issue the purchase order.