



Engineering Services Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: 3/25/25

Utilities Purchase of Itron AMI System (RFP 24-261)

Department: Utilities

Presenter: Wes Byne, Director

Caption: Approve Augusta Utilities Contract With Itron For Advanced Metering Infrastructure (RFP 24-261). The requested is for a five (5) year contract with the option to extend for five (5) additional years with Commission approval.

Background: AUD has been in the process of evaluating Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) offerings since 2023 with a series of limited scale technology demonstrations and pilot projects. This process has included a long term pilot with Itron consisting of 488 cellular endpoints, and a smaller pilot using consisting of 53 LoRa radio endpoints. As a result of these pilots, AUD has identified significant operational and cost efficiencies that will be achieved by introducing AMI across the entire water metering system. AUD issued RFP 24-261 to solicit proposals for AMI solutions and after careful review of the received proposals, AUD has identified that Itron provides the most advantageous AMI solution for Augusta.

Analysis: AUD has evaluated AMI solution proposals that will enable us to better manage the water system and to be more customer responsive. This will be accomplished by having access to much more data than previously available. We will receive information for, at a minimum, hourly usage across the entire water distribution network, including at each residence and business serviced by the water utility.

AUD has reviewed the proposals received from 6 proposers in response to RFP 24-261, Advanced Metering Infrastructure System. Based on our research and evaluation of the proposals by a selection committee, we have identified that the Itron cellular solution is the best proposal to meet the needs of Augusta. This is based on a technical and cost analysis of each proposal. Itron was identified as the best overall proposal to meet our needs and was also the lowest cost proposal.

Financial Impact: There are multiple costs associated with this contract. The first three years of expenses include hardware, professional services, and software with a total cost of \$7,016,871.60 and is funded through the 2024 bond issue. This cost includes \$6,305,809.44 for hardware, \$93,176 for professional services, and \$617,886 in connectivity and software fees. Funds for future year software fees will be included in future AUD annual budgets.

Alternatives: AUD does not purchase the Itron AMI solution. If the solution is not purchased AUD can engage in negotiations with other proposers, can re-issue the RFP to solicit more proposals, or can not

implement AMI. Each of these three will result in delaying or precluding the ability for AUD to better serve our customers and stakeholders with data driven approaches to water management.

Recommendation: Approve Augusta contract with Itron for an AMI network.

Funds are available GL 516043410-5424320 / JL 82500010-5424320
in the following
accounts:

REVIEWED AND N/A
APPROVED BY: