

City of Bel Aire, Kansas

STAFF REPORT

DATE: 11/07/2023

TO: City Council

FROM: Marty McGee

RE: Pump house



BACKGROUND: The Bel Aires pump house is the only point of connection with Wichita's water system. The pump house consist of four water pumps and two back flow devices that feed water from Wichita to Bel Aire. Every year Wichita requires us to have the backflow devices tested to ensure they are working properly.

DISCUSSION: The pump house controls the amount of water Wichita feeds to Bel Aire. This consist of up to 1.8 million gallons a day. The back flow device is a critical device that helps water move forward without any backflow through the water main. When the back flow device is not working correctly it is possible to have the city's drinking water contaminated due to pressure changes in the pipes. For example, backflow can happen when there's a break in the main water line or a fire hydrant is open for use. Because water pressure is lost during these events, water is no longer pushed forward into homes and will flow backwards into the city water lines. On October 24th, I had Fire Protection Services come out to perform the annual inspections that are required by the City of Wichita. At this time, it was brought to my attention the back flow devices are not holding pressure and need to be replaced. The current back flow device is discontinued and was last manufactured in 1986.

Fire Protection Systems	Bid amount	Lead time
Fire Protection Services	\$42,110.00	8-10 Weeks

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: Funding for this project will be taken out of the Water System Improvements line of Water Funds.

POLICY DECISION: Staff contacted three companies requesting an inspection, however Fire Protection Services was the only company available to evaluate the backflow device before October 28th, 2023. It is common practice to have the company evaluate the device rebuild/repair or replace the device as recommended during the inspection.

RECOMENDATION: Staff recommends the City Council accept the proposal from Fire Protection Systems.



City of Bel Aire 7651 E.
Central Park Bel Aire,
KS. 67226

RE: City of Bel Aire
4105 N. Woodlawn Blvd.
Backflow Preventers

We are pleased to offer you our estimate of costs to remove the existing double check backflow preventer, that is unable to be repaired, and install a new double check backflow preventer in the same spot. This installation will include all appropriate testing and paperwork to file with the City of Wichita. This price is based on the city valve shutting off and holding properly. Our price to replace **one device** is a total of **\$ 22,305.00 (Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred and Five Dollars)**.

The above price is per backflow. If we can replace both devices at the same time, I can offer a discount of **\$ 2,500.00** bringing the total for **both** backflows to **\$ 42,110.00**.

Exclusions:

1. Hydro Static Testing.
2. Design and/or Inspections by local AHJ.
3. Installing or testing the underground fire main, other than listed above.
4. Electrical work for the alarms or a fire alarm panel.
5. Painting the sprinkler pipe, valves, fittings, hangers, etc.
6. Any piping identification markers.
7. Any seismic bracing.
8. Any work outside of the specific contract area.
9. All work will be performed during normal working hours, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

If you have any questions regarding our proposal, please call or email.

Best Regards,

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, LLC.

Nick Pina

