



COOPER CITY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2022
TO: Joseph Napoli, City Manager
FROM: Raj Verma, Utilities Director/City Engineer
SUBJECT: Program Enhancement / Improved Service / Change in FY 22 Budget Line Item

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the contractual function of line locates be brought in house, utilizing the services of Utilities Operations Supervisor, Mike Stanton. It is estimated that after one-time purchase of equipment in the amount of \$27,144, the savings with this transition would be approximately \$50,000 per year. Additionally, there would be enhanced control and accountability related to this work.

A Program Enhancement Form is attached which summarizes the description and costs. Equipment would be purchased either from savings in the operating budget or contingency account, if necessary.

Background:

During its May 10, 2022 meeting, the City Commission extended the contract with High Tech Engineering, Inc., the line-locate consultant, for 120 days and directed the staff to evaluate bringing the line-locate contractual function in house. Normally, \$70,000 is expended each year for line-locates. However, this is expected to increase as a result of larger work load due to expansion of underground infrastructure by the utility companies.

Mike Stanton has prior experience of line locates but would need two separate pieces of equipment: Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and a Tracer unit. Although, the GPR can do most of the work, the Tracer unit is being recommended for greater accuracy of certain water lines.

Pursuant to the City Code, Section 2-257 (e), the staff has collected the quotes as follows:

GPR Unit

Power-Tel Utility Products, Inc.	\$18,545.00	Recommended Vendor
Green Equipment Company	\$31,395.00	
Kwipped	\$25,500.00	

Tracer Unit

Green Equipment Company	\$8,599.00	Recommended Vendor
Eastcom	\$10,212.19	
RJM Precision Instruments	\$10,469.99	

In lieu of additional compensation, Mike Stanton has agreed to accept a take-home vehicle. Additionally, this arrangement would be beneficial to the City for quick response in an emergency.

Attachment: Program Enhancement Form