



City of Hartford * County of Van Buren * State of Michigan

TO: Mayor Hall and the Hartford Commission

FROM: Quentin Clark, President, Certified Operator Services LLC

CC: Nicol Pulluam, City Manager

DATE: August 25, 2025

**RE: APPROVAL OF THE REPLACEMENT OF SLUDGE VALVES AND
PURCHASE OF DR3900 – WWTP**

ITEM BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

The purchase of a DR3900 spectrophotometer and the approval of the sludge valve replacement from Infrastructure Alternatives Incorporated Mechanical Services.

BACKGROUND:

The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) relies on accurate laboratory analysis and reliable sludge wasting equipment to maintain compliance with State and Federal requirements.

1. DR3900 Spectrophotometer

- The current Hach DR2800 spectrophotometer is outdated and increasingly unreliable, with discontinued support for certain test methods and software updates.
- The DR3900 is the industry standard replacement unit and provides improved accuracy, faster analysis, and updated method support for compliance monitoring.
- Replacement ensures the continued reliability of laboratory results and compliance reporting.

2. Gravity Wasting Valves

- The sludge pits utilize four (4) gravity wasting valves that have reached the end of their service life.
- The valves have either failed or are difficult to operate, resulting in inefficiencies in sludge handling.
- Replacement is necessary to restore proper operation, minimize maintenance issues, and prevent potential non-compliance or safety concerns

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval, staff will order a new DR3900 and update SOPs and training procedures for the new lab equipment and schedule the sludge pit valves to be replaced.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Bluebook Quote

IAI Mechanical Services Quote

RECOMMENDATION:

The City of Hartford City Commission approves the purchase of a Hach DR3900 Spectrophotometer for \$6,845.70 (USA Bluebook) at the WWTP laboratory and the replacement of four (4) gravity wasting valves in the WWTP sludge pits, \$5,488.00 – IAI Mechanical Services.