



TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH AGENDA MEMORANDUM

MEETING TYPE: Town Commission Meeting

MEETING DATE 02/15/2022

SUBMITTED BY: Pat Roman, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Approve and Authorize the Public Works Director to purchase an annual supply of Carbon Dioxide from AIRGAS USA LLC

SUMMARY:

The Town of Highland Beach Water Treatment Plant uses carbon dioxide gas to lower the pH level of the drinking water. Lowering the pH level allows for the addition of lime slurry which adds hardness and alkalinity to the water. Hardness and alkalinity to the water improves the taste and makes the water less corrosive. The gas is essential to providing good tasting drinking water to our residents.

Due to the pandemic, there are a number of factors that are limiting the purchase of Carbon Dioxide such as limited vendors and supply chain interruptions. Additionally, Carbon Dioxide has had inflationary price increases which puts the price for the gas over the three quote threshold, as outlined in the Town's purchasing policy.

Staff is recommending the use of the Article V. Direct Acquisition Procurements, (K) Best Interest Acquisition of the Town Purchasing Policy, to procure this product. AIRGAS USA LLC is the only available manufacturer taking on new accounts due to the shortage of this gas. The vendor has agreed to provide the Town with the product based upon the use of the cooperating purchase agreement from St. Johns County; however, the price is different than that outlined in the St. Johns agreement (see attached letter).

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$31,980.00 which was budgeted and approved in the FY2021-2022 Water Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

Agreement between St. Johns County and AIRGAS, LLC

Letter to Town of Highland Beach from AIRGAS, LLC

RECOMMENDATION:

Commission approval.