



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
For the Meeting of March 10, 2025

Title/Subject

Resolution 2360 – Monitoring Well Purchase

Summary and Background

This resolution will authorize the purchase of a groundwater well located on SE 9th street within the South Hermiston Industrial Park.

This well is approximately 1,500 feet deep, and is located within the same groundwater area as the City's groundwater rights currently associated with Well #6, Well #2, and the soon to be drilled ASR-3.

There are no water rights associated with this purchase, however the hole itself is valuable. The City just awarded a contract associated with ASR-3 which will cost approximately \$8.1 million.

City staff has been in discussions with the current well owner for several years as this site was an initial candidate to be used for an Aquifer Storage & Recovery site, but due to some limitations associated with it, it was deemed infeasible at the time. However, associated with the permitting from the Oregon Water Resources Department for the ASR-3 well, it was determined that this hole can serve as a useful "monitoring well."

A Monitoring Well is simply a well which can be used to monitor groundwater levels. Due to its proximity to ASR-3, this well will provide valuable insight in to the ASR program for the city long-term.

Tie-In to Council Goals

City Facilities: public facilities that meet the community needs of today and the future

Fiscal Information

The cost for this well has been negotiated to \$200,000. Although the initial purpose for this well will be to satisfy the requirements of the ASR permit, there may be potential to utilize the well for other city water department needs, including eventual ASR itself; but that needs further study. Therefore, the cost of this well will initially be charged to the water utility.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Approve resolution 2360
2. Reject resolution 2360

Recommended Action/Motion

Motion to approve Resolution 2360

Submitted By:

Mark Morgan