



Town of Johnstown

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE:	May 3, 2021
SUBJECT:	Contract Award for 2021 Regional Broadband Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study
ACTION PROPOSED:	Consider Approval of the Regional Broadband Study
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Town of Johnstown Professional Services Agreement (Including RFP)
PRESENTED BY:	Matt LeCerf, Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

In April 2020, the registered voters of the Town of Johnstown were asked to consider providing the Town with an exemption of SB 152, which prohibits municipalities from the expenditure of funds for broadband projects. That ballot was approved by roughly a 75 % - 25% margin in support of the exemption.

In FY 2021, funds were appropriated by Council to conduct a study for a Broadband Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study. While developing the RFP, neighboring communities were interested in partnering with on us this study. The study then took more of a regional focus and in February 2021, an Intergovernmental Agreement was entered into between the Towns of Berthoud, Johnstown, Mead, and Milliken to issue a joint RFP for a Regional Broadband Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study. The RFP was issued in February 2021, and the proposals were received and opened in March 2021. Representatives from each of the municipalities reviewed the proposals submitted for consideration. Reference checks were also conducted for the top 2 selected applicants. Based on the review of the applicants, Staff representing each of the 4 entities are unanimously recommending to award the project to Magellan Advisors. In total, the Town received four proposals from the following entities:

- Allo Communications
- Foresite Group
- HR Green
- Magellan Advisors

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Collectively, the entities have determined it will be efficient to have the Town of Johnstown oversee the contract. As agreed upon in the IGA, each entity will pay their pro rata share based on population percentages. Funds have been appropriated for this project, but they are less than the contract award. This is because of the fact that the scope has grown to a more regional focus. An amendment to the budget appropriating additional funds may be necessary, but those funds that would be appropriated as expenditures would be reimbursed by the other municipalities participating in the project, recognized as revenues, and result in a net zero-dollar difference in the ending fund balance as projected for FY 2021.

We are excited to get started on this project for the benefit of our collected communities, to explore which option(s) is best for the immediate region and each individual municipality. We are anticipating this project starting immediately and the completion of the project will include a presentation to all of the municipal elected officials represented in this project, describing the findings of the study by Magellan Advisors, sometime in late October or early November.

LEGAL ADVICE:

The contract used is our standard Professional Services Agreement drafted by the Town Attorney.

FINANCIAL ADVICE:

Funds have been allocated in FY 2021 for this project.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the contract for Professional Services as presented.

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

For Approval: I move to approve the Town of Johnstown Professional Services Agreement awarding a contract to Magellan Advisors, LLC.

For Denial: I move we deny the Town of Johnstown Professional Services Agreement awarding a contract to Magellan Advisors, LLC.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,



Town Manager

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