



## AGENDA ACTION FORM

### **Consideration of a Resolution to Amend the Engineering Agreement with Barge Design Solutions for a Water Quality Assessment of the South Fork of the Holston River**

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF- 142-2025

Work Session: June 2, 2025

First Reading: NA

Final Adoption: June 3, 2025

Staff Work By: Niki Ensor

Presentation By: Ryan McReynolds

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#### **Recommendation:**

Approve the Resolution

#### **Executive Summary:**

In response to TDEC placing the South Fork Holston River (SFHR) on the 303(d) list of impaired waterways and in preparation for the next NPDES permit cycle, it is in Kingsport's best interest to develop a thorough understanding and assessment of the quality of the SFHR. Beginning in 2016, TDEC listed the SFHR impaired due to nutrients attributed to municipal point sources. Due to the minimal number of data points and the suspect manner of data collection, the City of Kingsport continues to disagree with the validity of the data used for this decision and has unsuccessfully requested TDEC to remove the listing since the original listing. Therefore, considering the financial impact to our rate payers of the possible inclusion of nutrient reduction in the next permit, we recommend developing a clear and transparent assessment of the SFHR.

On June 18, 2024, the Board approved an agreement with Barge Design Solutions, Inc. for Year 1a to provide the City with a chemical and biological water quality assessment of the SFHR from the Fort Patrick Henry Dam downstream to approximately 0.75 river miles below the confluence of the SFHR. Barge has engaged Dynamic Solutions to model the water quality and sediment data to develop a water quality model for the South Fork Holston River over the course of the three-year study.

While this is a multi-year project, we are only asking for approval of funding Year 1b at this time. This cost of this amendment is \$301,855 bringing the total contract cost to \$601,825. Future phases will require board approval. While funding is available in the sewer operating budget we will continue to pursue the option of funding partnerships.

#### **Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Barge Proposal

	Y	N	O
Baker	—	—	—
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Mayes	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—