



AGENDA ITEM ANALYSIS

Project/Issue Name: 24-R-56 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with Burns and McDonnell Engineering Co., Inc. for the Provision of Engineering Design Services on a New Elevated Water Tank and Well.

Submitted By: **David Cameron, City Administrator**

Date: December 10, 2024

Issue Statement

A Resolution to use Burns & McDonnell for Professional Engineering Services for the Design of a New 1 Million Gallon Elevated Tank and Well Near Convoy of Hope.

Discussion and/or Analysis

As the City of Republic continues to expand, particularly in the Brookline area, the demand for improved infrastructure becomes increasingly critical. The large industrial campuses near Amazon and Convoy of Hope already place significant pressure on the area's water supply, a situation that will only intensify with the addition of the Walmart distribution center and planned expansions at Convoy of Hope. Addressing this growing demand requires proactive measures to ensure water availability for current and future needs.

In recent months, I have worked closely with staff to explore the possibility of constructing a 1-million-gallon elevated water tank and well near the Convoy of Hope campus. A comparison of water usage during July (typically the driest month) from 2020 to 2024 revealed that we have come dangerously close to exceeding our water capacity multiple times. These findings confirm the urgent need for additional water infrastructure.

We have selected Burns & McDonnell to provide engineering services for this design project. While the firm begins work on the tank and well designs, our Finance team will continue exploring funding strategies to support this critical initiative. As discussed in our November 19, 2024, workshop, we propose a phased water rate increase over the next three years, starting January 1, 2025. This increase, combined with the \$5 million Omnibus Bill awarded to the city in 2023, forms the foundation of our funding plan. We will also actively pursue grants and other financial resources to minimize the impact on our residents while ensuring the project's timely completion.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends approval.