



RIDGEWAY

208 Jarvis Street | Suite A | Ridgeway, WI 53582

Iowa County, Wisconsin

To: Board of Trustees

RE: Ongoing Water Metering Register Upgrade

From: Hailey Roessler, Clerk/Treasurer

August 4, 2023

In 2022, \$10,000 was set aside for registers and transmitters with a planned expenditure of \$20,000 each year thereafter to upgrade all existing endpoint registers to the new cellular transmitter versions to eliminate the obsolete handheld device and read meters directly from the software purchased in 2022. Beacon is the new software for the new cellular transmitters and customers have the option to go online and view their usage. These meters do not have to be manually read with the handheld device by Public Works employees. We pay for all accounts to be in the new software whether they have the new transmitters or not. The handheld device we utilize to read the old registers is on loan from Midwest Meter.

Last year 75 meters, register, and transmitters were ordered and paid for out of the water tower and well improvement loan for \$30,440.05. Seventy-one (71) of these have been installed as of August 3, 2023. Staff is working on installing the other endpoints and scheduling appointments with residents in the outlying areas to streamline meter reading.

There are 313 water utility accounts (317 total metered units) and a remaining 246 accounts to upgrade to cellular transmitter/register combos.

Currently, the encoder is \$95.00 and the ORION Cellular endpoint that attaches to it is \$160.00 for a total of \$255.00 for both. Last year, it was \$277 for both. Large orders will see a lead time of 4 to 8 weeks but smaller orders can be fulfilled quickly.

The **meter base itself, is an additional \$73.00** for a bronze water meter. (They were \$62 last year) All meters were changed out in 2006 and it is best to change out the meters while we are already in the residence.

We are requesting to spend the remaining water tower loan financing monies of \$11,680 on

2 transmitters = \$190

18 register/transmitter combinations = \$4,590

20 meter/register/transmitter combinations = \$6,560

Total expense of \$11,340

This will give Public Works the ability to complete installation at 48 utility customers homes. (Current inventory is 28 brass meter bases, 8 transmitter/register units, and 2 registers)