

To: Chairman Arnett and members of the Public Works Commission April 14, 2026
From: Peter Hartz – Water Systems Manager

Re: Water Systems agenda items for April 14, 2026, Public Works Commission meeting

Water Systems:

Review and take action – Enter into agreement with Win Technologies for IT upgrades, including a new firewall and network switches, to improve Water Systems communications and security.

Background: The Water Systems began IT upgrades in 2023 by replacing obsolete wastewater SCADA servers, during that work we identified numerous other components in need of updating and replacing. The Water Systems has been using a FortiGate-60D firewall for SCADA system access. This is an old firewall model that reached end-of-support status some time ago. This is a real concern from a security standpoint as technical support from the manufacturer (Fortinet) is not available and it does not support the latest firmware edition or security patches. The planned upgrades include a more robust FG-90G appliance, which is recommended to provide gateway security for the entire Water Systems Admin network, in addition to SCADA access. In addition to the firewalls, we also identified our main communication building to building legacy network switches are past their end-of-life support and have become obsolete. This includes a variety of different switches of HPE, Aruba, and Juniper types. We are looking to standardize with all new Aruba CX switches to simplify management and match what City Hall has upgraded to in other city departments. These upgrades will also allow us to phase in our main Water Utility SCADA server upgrades that are needed due to operation systems needing Windows 11 upgrades which are not supported on the current server / computers.

Budget Goal: Our divisional specific goal was to identify a reliable, modern communication and security system that meets the needs of the Water Systems while providing the best overall value.

Fiscal impact: These IT upgrades were identified in our facilities plan and include in the 2026 budget. Win Technologies is the outside independent consultant for the City IT needs.

Recommendation: Enter into agreement with Win Technologies for the firewall proposal and network switch proposal upgrades for a total of \$55,874.

Sincerely,
Peter Hartz
Water Systems Manger