

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM IV



CITY OF FRANKLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

July 9, 2012

From: Brian J. Sullivan, Municipal Services Director

Subject: Purchase of Water Meters for Fiscal Year 2013

Recommended Motion:

"I move that the Franklin City Council, pursuant to Franklin City Code Article III, Section 4-15,B(3), grant pre-award authorization to the Municipal Services Director for the purchase of water meters and related equipment, for Fiscal Year 2013, from E.J. Prescott Company.

Discussion: In July of 2005, City Council authorized single source approval purchasing approval to the Municipal Services Department to purchase \$40,000 worth of water meters and related equipment from E.J. Prescott Company. This was the beginning of a multi year program to replace all City owned water meters. The authorization allowed for the continued purchase and replacement of antiquated water meters. To date, over a seven year period, approximately 1,730 of the systems 2,314 meters have been replaced using in house Water Department Employees.

In 2004 after evaluating the various types of water meters and equipment available on the market, Department officials, with authorization from City Council and a positive recommendation from the Municipal Services Committee decided to purchase the Invensys water meter and associated remote / radio read equipment. Since then, the Water Department continues to progress from manual meter reading to the new touch pad meter reading system using all the same standardized equipment.

In order to ensure compatibility with current equipment, it is necessary to continue to purchase the same brand of meter and meter head. The recommended vendor, E.J. Prescott, is capable of providing the City with the necessary equipment consistent with our needs. As a result the MSD Director as in the past requests single source purchasing approved.

Concurrences: The annual appropriation of \$30,000 is included in the FY 2013 operating budget for the Water Department. This annual appropriation is identified in the Water Department's Annual Capital Improvements Program and will continue through 2015. The \$30,000 will enable us to purchase and replace approximately 375 meters in FY 2013.

Fiscal Impact: Most of the Water Department's annual revenue is derived from Water Sales to the customer. Water consumption is determined by the customer's water meter. Old meters slow down and tend not to provide accurate readings, thus, the loss of

revenue. Continued replacement of water meters will ensure sufficient, accurate revenue from water sales.

Alternatives: Deferring the meter replacement program will compound the problem in future fiscal years, as there are still many of the existing meters that are antiquated and in need of replacement.

Attachments/Exhibits:

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