ITEM #:	**25**
DATE:	**03-11-25**
DEPT:	**ELEC**

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **EMERGENCY GENERATOR SYSTEM FOR THE POWER PLANT**

BACKGROUND:

There are two battery banks within the Power Plant responsible for powering controls systems and emergency oil pumps for critical systems such as turbine bearings and hydrogen seals on the generators. The battery banks can provide a limited window of power during a loss of internal generation or grid power. In the event there is no power for multiple hours, as occurred during the 2020 derecho, the Plant is at risk of losing the critical controls and emergency oil pumps. **A portable emergency generator along with an installed building system capable of quickly connecting the emergency generator, can provide power to these critical systems in emergencies.**

On October 10, 2023, City Council awarded a contract to Farris Engineering of Omaha, Nebraska to design the emergency generation system for the Power Plant.

Funding for the Standby Power Generator will come from the Critical Electric System Generators Capital Improvements Project, where there is a current balance of $1,150,000. The engineer's estimate for this project is $450,000.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve preliminary plans and specifications for the Emergency Generator System for the Power Plant, setting April 23, 2025, as due date for bids, and May 13, 2025, as date of public hearing and award of contract.

2. Do not proceed with the project at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Loss of power for an extended period in the Power Plant could lead to damaged equipment and hazardous situations. A portable, emergency generator and building system capable of quickly connecting the emergency generator allows for the option of continued power to these critical systems and the ability to prevent these situations. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1 as stated above.