

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Brian Heaston, Engineer III

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to a Professional Services Agreement with Morrison Maierle, Inc., for the Lyman Reservoir Predesign Phase Services Project

MEETING DATE: July 22, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Agreement - Vendor/Contract

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to a Professional Services Agreement with Morrison Maierle, Inc., for the Lyman Reservoir Predesign Phase Services Project.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 2.2 Infrastructure Investments: Strategically invest in infrastructure as a mechanism to encourage economic development.

BACKGROUND: The Lyman Reservoir was the City's first water storage facility, originally constructed in 1889 as an integral component of the City's original municipal water system. The reservoir has undergone various improvements since its original construction. In 1911 the reservoir was substantially enlarged to its current capacity of 5.4 million gallons (MG). In 2004, major improvements to the reservoir facility were completed. The 2004 improvements consisted of the following: extensive concrete slab and joint repairs; installation of a synthetic liner to prevent leakage; construction of a new vestibule roof system to fully enclose the reservoir; and construction of a new inlet control building, outlet control building, and chemical feed systems. The reservoir liner is beyond its useful life as evidenced by observed leakage rates from the liner underdrain. The investments made in 2004 for the new reservoir roof and control buildings have substantial useful life remaining; however, the reservoir's concrete slabs are original construction dating back to 1889 and 1911 respectively.

The City is faced with a major decision to pursue a capital rehabilitation project or proceed with construction of a new reservoir altogether. The predesign phase of the project will entail engineering analyses necessary to arrive at a project definition recommendation for subsequent engineering design and construction. The decision made must balance risks with life cycle costs, remaining useful life, and available funding to provide the best overall value to the City's water utility and customer base.

Morrison Maierle was selected to provide professional predesign phase

services for the Lyman Reservoir project pursuant to formal procurement action under Sec. 18-8-204 Montana Code Annotated. Due to technical complexities and the consequential nature of the project definition that will ultimately be implemented, the attached professional service agreement (PSA) scope of services focuses only on the predesign phase of the project.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the City Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS: The negotiated costs for the attached PSA totals \$313,400. These costs are funded by Commission approved budget appropriations for capital improvement project W87. Current budget authority available for project W87 is \$4,416,900. Adequate funding exists to cover the cost of the negotiated PSA. Note that project W87 also includes funding for work on the Lyman transmission main, which is the large diameter pipeline between the Lyman Reservoir and to its connection point with the south pressure zone at the intersection of Wallace and Tamarack. The available W87 project budget will be shared between the reservoir and transmission main improvements. A separate professional services agreement is currently being negotiated to complete a condition assessment of the Lyman transmission main that will be brought to the City Commission for authorization in the near future.

Attachments:

[PSA - Lyman Creek Reservoir Project_20250715 v2.pdf](#)

Report compiled on: July 10, 2025