



REGULAR AGENDA ITEM NO. 10.C.

FOR COUNCIL: February 10, 2025

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Consideration and Action on a Resolution Waiving the Formal Bidding Requirements and Authorizing the City Manager to Approve an Agreement to Purchase a Gas Chromatograph Machine from Midwest Lab Solutions, Inc. in the Amount of \$163,991.10, as requested by the Water Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: The proposed Resolution be approved.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 2. Upgrade City Infrastructure and Facilities

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 2b. Quality water for the long term

BACKGROUND: The Water Department is recommending the approval of a purchase of a gas chromatograph machine from Midwest Lab Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$163,991.10.

The City of Bloomington utilizes two reservoirs to supply drinking water to its residents and wholesale customers. Surface water naturally contains algae, that decay throughout the year. When the algae begins the decomposition process, two non-toxic compounds are created, Methyl-isoborneol (MIB) and geosmin. Currently, staff collects raw water samples from each reservoir and a sample from the finished treated water and sends the collected samples to Eurofins, Inc. in South Bend, Indiana for analysis. The samples are picked up at the Water Treatment Plant in Hudson, Illinois and transported to South Bend, Indiana by a courier with test results being sent to City staff 5 or 6 days after the samples are received.

In order to more quickly process the water samples, staff are recommending that a gas chromatograph machine be purchased so the laboratory staff can analyze the samples within a 24-hour period. This will allow managers the opportunity to make decisions more efficiently so that changes can be made to the treatment process and alert the public in changes in water quality.

In conjunction with in-house sampling and analysis, staff will continue to utilize Eurofins Inc. to ensure quality control measures and as a confirmation of the City's analysis.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: If approved, a Resolution to waive the Formal Bidding Requirements and Authorizing the City Manager to Approve an Agreement to Purchase a Gas Chromatograph Machine from Midwest Lab Solutions, Inc. in the Amount of \$163,991.10 will be executed. If approved, a budget transfer will be processed to move \$163,991.10 from Water Mechanical Maintenance-Other Capital Improvement account (50100160-72620) to the

Water Purification-Capital Outlay Equipment Other than Office account (50100130-72140) where the Gas Chromatograph Machine will be paid. Stakeholders can locate the Water Mechanical Maintenance Budget where the funds are being sourced from in the FY 2025 Budget Book titled "Other Funds & Capital Improvement" on page 143.

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Joe Darter, Property Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

[WTR 3B Resolution](#)

[WTR 3C Resolution - Exhibit A - Quote](#)