City of Georgetown, Texas
City Council
April 25, 2023

SUBJECT:
Software as a Service and Spectrum Lease Agreement with Sensus, USA - Western District Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project

SUGGESTED ACTION:
Forwarded from the Georgetown Water Utility Advisory Board (GWUAB):
Consideration and possible action to approve a Software as a Service and Spectrum Lease Agreement with Sensus USA, Inc. for software as a service on the Western District advanced metering infrastructure project related to Task Order #3 to the Master Services Agreement with Thirkettle Corporation dba Aqua-Metric Sales Company -- Chelsea Solomon, Water Utility Director

ITEM SUMMARY:
The current metering in place for the Western District of the City's water utility area is comprised of an Itron drive-by system whose meters are at end of life, a Honeywell drive-by system using Master Meters, and a Master Meter drive-by system using Master Meters, all of which produce a single billing read versus the interval data that is necessary to expand the City's water efficiency and conservation efforts that exist in the urban metering and AMI system.

In an effort to bring the same level of service to Western District customers and to expand the City's efficiency and conservation programs, the City released a Western District AMI RFP in June of 2021. The City received six proposals that were reviewed and scored with two finalists selected for presentations. Following the presentations, the selection committee recommended AquaMetrics/Sensus as the winning bidder in December 2021.

Potential scope changes including addition of the urban Honeywell system to the project as a result of communication that Honeywell might suspend support of the City's existing system, discussions relating to various options of integration with multiple meter data management systems, and potential wide scale use of a remote disconnect meter delayed the final scope of the project and increased the cost substantially. Additionally, the technology direction of the industry was verified prior to finalizing the scope of the project.

With a reversal in suspension of support of the Honeywell system, and the decision to limit the use of the remote disconnect meter, the project returned to its original scope plus the growth of the system of the ensuing 18 months. The decision was also made to exclude one area of the system from the project due to lack of City-owned infrastructure, eliminating the need for an expensive tower lease to support a very small number of meters.

The current project will require the installation of:

1. New Sensus headend software in a cloud based environment integrated with our existing UMAX software

2. New Sensus meter data management software in a cloud based environment integrated with our existing software

3. Twelve radio base stations located at various City water utility infrastructure sites

4. Replacement of 12,800 meters and radios that are out of warranty or otherwise incompatible with new iPERL ultrasonic meters and Sensus Smart endpoints

5. Upgrade of 10,700 meters that remain in warranty with Sensus Smart endpoints

The current project timeline shows a project start in May 2023, Network and Software live in January 2024, and meter deployment starting in February 2024 and ending in January 2025. The project will require purchase of software, integration, network, ¾" and 1" meters, and endpoints from Aqua-Metric in accordance with a Master Services Agreement (MSA) and accompanying task orders.

Approval of this item will approve the following items:

1. A Master Services Agreement (MSA) between the City and Aqua-Metric Thirkettle Corporation dba Aqua-Metric Sales Company that outlines the standard terms and conditions for any task orders related to the advanced metering infrastructure project.

2. Task Order #1 to the MSA with Aqua-Metric for Western District advanced metering infrastructure implementation in an amount not to exceed $8,893,087.00 which includes a 10% contingency.

3. Task Order #2 to the MSA with Aqua-Metric for Sensus meter and endpoint annual purchases for system growth and maintenance in an amount not to exceed $1,040,000.00 per year for years 1 and 2 and to allow the City Manager to renew for up to three (3) additional one-year terms for up to $2,500,000.00 annually on the same terms and conditions.

4. Task Order #3 to the MSA with Aqua-Metric for annual metering services to support Software as a Service and Network - $208,859.55 escalating annually to an amount not to exceed $300,000 based on inflation and network size.

As part of this project, the City must also enter into a separate agreement with Sensus USA, Inc. for a spectrum lease and software as a service agreement, but there is no separate cost associated with this agreement. It is required pursuant to Task Order #3 for annual metering services.

To accomplish the upgrade of existing Master Meters, new registers and meters will be purchased from HydroPro under the City's existing approved purchasing contract in an estimated amount of $658,790.

Staff is recommending a 10% contingency to account for additional scope due to system growth before the start of mass meter deployment in the amount of $808,462.00.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION: This item was unanimously approved at the April 13, 2023, Georgetown Water Utility Advisory Board meeting for recommendation for Council approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:
Deniece Villela, Water Utility Department

ATTACHMENTS:
05- CityofGeorgetown _Sensus SaaS and Spectrum Lease Agreement.pdf
AMI_presentation.pdf