

To: City Council

From: David J. Deutsch, City Manager

Date: July 17, 2009

Subject: Automated Valve Operator/Extension for Swivel Vac Trailer- R-48-09.

The automated valve operator and extension is equipment which mounts on the swivel vac trailer and will allow the Utilities Division to exercise the more than 600 valves on our water distribution system to ensure their efficient operation. The majority of these valves are located three to six feet behind the curb and this equipment will allow us to reach the valves without the necessity of backing the trailer over the curb and onto to residents' property in order to reach the valves. In addition, this equipment will be utilized to exercise all of the fire hydrant valves each year during flushing. The City has 560 fire hydrants, all of which are located behind the curb.

Our trailer is manufactured by E.H. Wachs Company and they are the only supplier of the automated valve operator/extension system. The valve operator/extension system, required controller and hose are priced at \$13,870, which is within the budgeted amount. Consequently, due to the fact that this equipment is from a sole source provider, we request that Council, upon two-thirds vote, pursuant to Charter Section 61 (b) (3), waive the Charter's bidding requirements for good cause shown and authorize the City Manager to issue a purchase order to E. H. Wachs Company in the amount of \$13,870.

I concur with the above recommendation and request your approval of R-48-09.

R E S O L U T I O N

**OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
AUTHORIZING THE WAIVING OF BIDDING REQUIREMENTS
TO ALLOW FOR ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER FOR AN AUTOMATED
VALVE OPERATOR/EXTENSION FOR SWIVEL VAC TRAILER**

WHEREAS, the City of Bowie's water distribution system contains more than 600 water valves and 560 fire hydrants that require consistent maintenance; and

WHEREAS, this maintenance requires that the valves and hydrants all be exercised and opened to ensure their efficient operation; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the valves and all of the hydrants are located three to six feet behind the curb making their accessibility difficult to trailer mounted equipment; and

WHEREAS, the manufacturer of our trailer has developed an automated valve operator/extension system which will allow the exercising of the valves and hydrants without the need to back over the curb, disturbing residents' property; and

WHEREAS, the manufacturer, E. H. Wachs Company is the sole source provider of this equipment at a cost of \$13,870; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Bowie to issue a purchase order to E. H. Wachs Company for the purchase of this equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon two-thirds vote of its members, that the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland waives bidding requirements for the purchase of an automated valve operator/extension for the swivel vac trailer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, that the Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$13,870, to E. H. Wachs Company.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, at a Regular Meeting on August 3, 2009.

WITNESS:

THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND

Pamela A. Fleming, City Clerk

G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor