

## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch  
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report/Council Poll*

DATE: May 1, 2014

### *Status Report*

1. Annual Rain Barrel Workshop

This Saturday, May 3, 2014, the City and the Bowie Lions Club will again host a rain barrel workshop at City Hall at 9:00 a.m. in room 243. Staff will provide a brief introduction to stormwater and watersheds, then the Lions Club will discuss the benefits of rain barrels and will teach attendees how to install and care for them. Two residents who have been using rain barrels successfully (one at a townhome!) will be there to answer questions. The Lions Club will have completely assembled, ready-to-install 55-gallon rain barrels for about \$75. All proceeds support their programs right here in Bowie. Registration is preferred but not required. For more information or to RSVP, contact the City's Watershed Manager, Tiffany Wright, at 301-809-3043 or by email at [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org). Please feel free to pass this along to your constituents and join us Saturday morning!

2. Public Works Fiber Connection to the ICBN

The FY14 Public Information budget includes funding for a fiber connection from the City's Public Works complex to the ICBN (Inter-County Broadband Network) at the intersection of Route 3 and Route 450. This connection will provide PW with a redundant path to the City's intranet and a direct fiber connection to the Maryland counties that are at the part of the ICBN (Montgomery, Howard, Baltimore, Prince George's, and Anne Arundel) as well as Network Maryland, and the National Capital Region (NCR) network. Connectivity to these networks will allow PW to share voice, video and data on a secure network both during normal operations and during times of emergencies. The project also calls for the replacement of the current fiber connections between the PW administration building, the utilities building, the recycling building and the wastewater treatment facility.

Columbia Telecommunications Corporation (CTC) of Kensington Maryland designed the ICBN for the participating counties and, at the request of the City, has designed connections to the ICBN from Bowie City Hall and from the City's Public Works complex.

In FY13 the City constructed the first segment of the project from City Hall to Route 3/301. The budget for FY14 calls for the City to construct the PW segment at Route 450 and Route 3. In the FY15 budget, staff has requested funding to complete the third phase of the project which includes a fiber connection from the Public Safety Tower at Rt. 3/301 to the Kenhill Center.

To construct the PW connection, the City solicited proposals from two of the bidders that have been awarded contracts under the Howard County contract, Southern Maryland (SMC) and Henkels and McCoy. SMC submitted a proposal for \$82,923.03 and Henkels bid was for \$89,060.11. We believe both contractors are reliable and have first hand knowledge of the ICBN project. SMC submitted a slightly lower cost and the City's prior experience with SMC has been positive.

The City Charter requires the City Council be given seven days notice prior to entering into a purchase agreement of this type. Should Council agree staff will proceed with awarding a contract to SMC for a total price of \$82,923.03 to install fiber and to connect the City's PW facility to the ICBN. Funding for all phases of this project is through a capital grant provided by the cable companies. The City's current franchise agreements restrict use of these funds to capital expenditures for the City's I-Net and for our Public, Education and Government access channels.

3. Carnival at the Bowie Town Center

From May 8<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup> the Reithoffer Shows, Inc. will again bring their Carnival to the Bowie Town Center. There will be a total of 17 structures, with hours of:

- Weekdays 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- Fridays 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Saturdays 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Sundays 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location will again be behind the Mall adjacent to Evergreen Parkway. Security will be provided for the event from off duty City police officers. Vendor has received all permits.

4. Job Fair

The Job Fair is tomorrow, Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the City Gymnasium from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Approximately forty employers are expected.

5. Drug Take Back

Over 329 pounds of prescription and non-prescription drugs were turned in at the Bowie Police Department in the program last Saturday. This is a greater than 20% increase over the volume of the previous program.

***Council Poll***

1. Invitation List

A list of invitations received has been emailed. Please advise if you can attend.

DJD/adf