



## Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 8, 2019 Staff Responses to Council Questions

Before each Committee of the Whole or City Council meeting, questions that have been posed by the City Council relating to [the agenda](#) for that evening will be posted to the City's website. Below are the responses to this week's questions.

### **3. Items of Business**

#### **i. Recommend Draft Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of St. Charles for Construction and Construction Engineering of the Gray Street Rehabilitation Project.**

*Q: The intergovernmental agreement addresses Gray Street west of Anderson Boulevard. Do we have an intergovernmental agreement for Gray Street east of Anderson Boulevard?*

A: You are correct, the proposed intergovernmental agreement does not address the eastern segment of Gray Street. We were informed by St. Charles that they anticipate their future road improvement program will be tasked to other roadways and that it may be several years before the eastern segment of Gray Street is addressed. Our options are very limited since paving 1/2 of the roadway is not a realistic option. Patching operations were conducted last fall by Public Works crews.

#### **k. Recommend Draft Resolution Authorizing Waiver of Bidding Process and Purchase of Itron 100W Water Meter ERTs from United Systems at a Cost Per-Unit of \$72.00 Throughout Fiscal Year 2020 Not-To-Exceed \$300,000. (Meters and ERTs combined).**

*Q: Is there a time urgency with the replacement of these meters? My brief research leads me to believe that these are not sole-source items. Why are we waiving bidding on a \$300,000 agreement?*

A: In order to meet the goal of replacing 1,000 + meters during the fiscal year, we need to have stock on hand beginning May 1. Core & Main is the sole source manufacturer sales representative in our area for the preferred meters.

Prior to 2010 Geneva used Badger water meters exclusively. Based on historical information, we could see that at around 12 years the Badger meter with mechanical moving parts to register consumption started to decline. For many years the City had a program to replace the water meters every 10 years. In 2010 when we first started moving towards the Fixed Network Meter Reading system, staff evaluated different water meter manufacturers. We evaluated the typical mechanical water meters and the new IPerl water meters from Sensus, which have no moving parts. The evaluation included a bench test. Staff was impressed with the accuracy at low flows and high flows of the IPerl. Because the IPerl from Sensus has no moving parts, the life of the meter is increased to 20 years based on the battery life of the meter. The cost of the IPerl from Sensus is comparable to other mechanical meters even without factoring in the extended life of the meter. Based on the evaluation we decided to move forward with the IPerl from Sensus.

The Iperls come in 0.75 inch and 1-inch meters, which account for 95% of the meters in Geneva. In 11 years of purchasing Sensus water meters (2010 to 2021), there has been only one price increase. From \$107 to \$109 for a 0.75-inch meter and \$146 to \$165 for a 1-inch meter. Currently, we are 78% complete with replacing older water meters with the Sensus water meters with encoder receiver transmitters (ERTs). As long as the prices stay competitive and the meters perform well, I will continue to recommend Sensus water meters. There are two other important reasons for staying with one water meter. We do not have to carry spare parts for multiple meters, and we have one brand of water meter in the billing system. Any additional meters would need their own code in the billing software, which increases the chance for errors in the system.