



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING SPECIAL SESSION

Monday, April 10, 2023 at 4:00 PM

City Hall, 102 W. Ashley Wilson Rd, Sweeny, Texas

### AGENDA

BE IT KNOWN that the City Council of the City of Sweeny will meet in **Special Session** on **Monday, April 10, 2023 at 4:00 PM.** at City Hall, 102 W. Ashley Wilson Rd, Sweeny, Texas with the following agenda. Council is conducted under modified Roberts Rules of Order as approved by Resolution 102-16; July 19, 2016. In accordance with Chapter §551 of the Texas Government Code, if required, the Council may conduct an executive session on any of the agenda items provided the City Attorney is present.

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#### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

#### PLEDGES & INVOCATION

#### CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS CITY COUNCIL

*This item is available for those citizens wishing to address City Council on an issue not on the agenda. Any item discussed cannot be voted on but could be considered for placement on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting. Limited to three (3) minutes.*

#### REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discuss and act on a quote from Water Equipment and Treatment Services for the provision of urgent repair work for the water system softeners.

#### ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

#### ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION

I certify that the notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Sweeny City Council on **April, 10, 2023** was posted on the City Hall bulletin board on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, at approximately \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Kaydi Smith – City Secretary)

I hereby certify that this Public Notice was removed from the City Hall bulletin board on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at approximately \_\_\_\_\_.

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Kaydi Smith, City Secretary



# AGENDA MEMO

## Business of the City Council City of Sweeny, Texas

<b>Meeting Date</b>	04.10.2023	<b>Agenda Item</b>	
<b>Approved by City Manager</b>	Yes	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	Michael Gonzales, Professional Water Consultant Keyur Gorji, P. E. and Representative from Water Equipment and Treatment Services Lindsay Koskiniemi, City Manager
<b>Reviewed by City Attorney</b>	Yes	<b>Department</b>	Water
<b>Subject</b>	Discuss and act on a quote from Water Equipment and Treatment Services for the provision of urgent repair work for the water system softeners.		
<b>Attachments</b>	Quote for water softener repair		
<b>Financial Information</b>	Expenditure Required:	\$140,550 - \$208,550	
	Amount Budgeted:	N/A	
	Account Number:	2019 Certificates of Obligation	
	Additional Appropriation Required:		
	Additional Account Number:		

### Executive Summary

The City of Sweeny has observed a spike in “dirty water” complaints from residents since January 2023. The City of Sweeny hosted a special City Council on March 06, 2023 to discuss the water coloration with the public and explain efforts in progress to find a solution. Public Works offered information concerning a directive from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to cease use of polyphosphate, a sequestering agent used to conceal the coloration of iron and manganese, common substances found in well water. Staff have fully cooperated with TCEQ through this process and requested the reinstatement of polyphosphate to help alleviate the water color.

Management contacted external sources for assistance with testing and diagnosis the system. Independent water testing companies were brought in to collect water samples and conduct full spectrum tests. The results of all tests showed elevated levels of manganese, a substance ranging in color from brownish-red to black. No test done by third party testing companies or by TCEQ disclosed threats to health.

Management contacted a professional water consultant to perform an on-site water system diagnosis. The consultant found that there is a problem with the media inside the water softeners. Water softeners use resin called ‘media.’ The water softener contains resin — beads that are electro-statically sensitive. As the water flows through the resin chamber, the beads attract and hold ions from the hardness minerals, releasing non-harmful ions such as sodium or potassium instead. At a basic level, a water softener operates like ‘out with the bad, in with the good,’ to soften the water.



# AGENDA MEMO

## Business of the City Council

### City of Sweeny, Texas

Staff contacted and notified TCEQ that the water softeners would be bypassed in the system for maintenance and repair. TCEQ took objection and will be notified of a project timeline once a purchase order and notice to proceed is issued for the proposed repair and maintenance work.

The existing water softeners were installed in 1996 (2) and 2016 (1) by Water Equipment and Treatment Services (WETS). WETS has assessed the system and provided a quote to rehab filters for each softener, clean the softeners out, and replace the media (\$140,550) with an alternate to change the existing control system to a new one to improve operational efficiency for an additional \$68,000. The cost of the project is proposed to be paid from the 2019 certificates of obligation issuance and is consistent with the bond covenants.

Due to the urgency of the matter and public concern for health and safety of drinking water, city management recommends moving forward with the existing quote consistent with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 252 – Purchasing and Contracting Authority of Municipalities, which provides that exceptions to competitive open bidding can be made in instances of the following:

Sec. 252.022. GENERAL EXEMPTIONS.(a)This chapter does not apply to an expenditure for:

- (1) a procurement made because of a public calamity that requires the immediate appropriation of money to relieve the necessity of the municipality's residents or to preserve the property of the municipality;
- (2) a procurement necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the municipality's residents;
  - (7) a procurement of items that are available from only one source, including:
    - (C) gas, water, and other utility services;

It should be noted that the waterline replacement project is still in construction, and TCEQ has not approved the use of polyphosphate and possibly may not approve the City's request to reinstate the use of polyphosphate. Rehab work on the softeners may not fully alleviate all water coloration but may provide substantial relief.

### **Recommended Action**

City staff recommend approval.



Ms. Lindsay Koskiniemi  
Sweeny City Manager  
Sweeny Municipal Building  
PO Box 248  
Sweeny, TX 77480-0248  
United States

4/6/2023

Email: citymanager@sweenytx.gov

Dear Ms. Koskiniemi,

We are pleased to provide a quote for rehabbing three 8 ft diameter pressure filters used for removing hardness and manganese.

Details of WETS Scope

1. Remove existing media and gravel from all three vessels and disposing to approved landfill site.
2. Remove the existing underdrain for all three vessels and replace it with new underdrain.
3. Check the functionality of pneumatic valves; and replace valves with new valves if necessary.
4. Add new gravel and Cation Resin CG8.
5. Prepare operating manual. Support operator to start up the plant and establish operating procedures and testing.

Each filter will consist of

2" of 1-1/2" x 3/4" gravel .....	121 ft3	(Including Dome)
3" of 3/4" x 1/2" gravel .....	12.5 ft3	
3" of 1/2" x 1/4" gravel .....	12.5 ft3	
3" of 1/4" x 1/8" gravel .....	12.5 ft3	
4" of 1/8" x 1/16" gravel .....	16.8 ft3	
30" CG8 Cation Resin .....	125.5 ft3	

We will supply measured quantity of media in 3000# supersacks. Boom type forklift or small crane will be rented during the rehab job (in our scope of work).

Pricing

Our price for each filter is \$46,850.00. The total job cost for the rehab of the three filters is \$140,550.00.



Option for Control Modification

Change the existing control system to a new PLC-based control system to improve operational efficiency. The total cost of removing the existing control system and adding PLC system is \$68,000.00.

Our term is net 30 days. There will be a 1-1/2% per month finance charge on any overdue balance.

Payment Requirements

Initial upfront payment of 30% required for material procurement.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with our quotation.

Yours truly,

*Keyur Gorji*

Keyur Gorji, P.E.  
President

Accepted:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_