



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of March 28, 2023

DATE: March 28, 2023

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Drew Molly, P.E. Director Water Systems and Support Services
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Supply Agreement for Hydrofluorosilicic Acid

CAPTION:

Motion authorizing a one-year supply agreement with Univar Solutions USA, Inc., of Kent, Washington, in an amount not to exceed \$270,000.00, for Hydrofluorosilicic Acid to be utilized by Corpus Christi Water, with FY 2023 funding of \$75,000.00 from the Water Fund.

SUMMARY

Water fluoridation is the controlled adjustment of fluoride to a public water supply for dental health. Hydrofluorosilicic acid is the most common additive for water fluoridation in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, U.S. Public Health Service, American Medical Association, American Dental Association, Corpus Christi-Nueces County Local Health Authority, and local dentists and pediatricians recommend the addition of fluoride to drinking water.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Hydrofluorosilicic acid is added in the treatment of potable (drinking) water through a controlled liquid feed system to reduce the incidence of dental cavities and tooth decay. In 1948, a local dental association requested that fluoride be added to drinking water.

The City of Corpus Christi has been adding fluoride since 1950. A low level of fluoride (about 0.2 mg/L) exists naturally in the City's raw water sources from the Nueces River, Lake Texana, and Colorado River. At the water treatment plant, enough fluoride is added to bring the fluoride level to the optimal recommended level of 0.7 mg/L.

The previous contract with Univar Solutions USA, Inc. provides the chemical at \$440.00 per ton for a period of one year for 450 tons at \$198,000.00. This new contract with Univar Solutions is an increase of \$160.00 for a price of \$600.00 per ton for 450 tons at \$270,000.00.

PROCUREMENT DETAIL:

Finance & Procurement conducted a competitive Request for Bid process to obtain bids for a new contract. The City received two bids and is recommending the award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, and incumbent Univar Solutions USA, Inc. The cost per ton of this item has increased by 36%.

ALTERNATIVES:

An alternative to accepting the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, Univar Solutions USA, Inc. would be to reject all bids and discontinue the practice of fluoridation. Discontinuing the practice of fluoridation would be against the recommendation of fluoridation by several agencies including local dentists and pediatricians.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for the Water Fund in FY 2023 is \$75,000.00

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund:	4010 Water
Organization/Activity:	31010 O. N. Stevens Filter Plant
Department:	45 Water
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	520010 Purification Chemicals

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this supply agreement with Univar Solutions USA, Inc. for the purchase of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Bid Tabulation
Supply Agreement