

#### **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Action Item for the City Council October 26, 2021

**DATE:** October 19, 2021

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

**FROM:** Kevin Norton, Director of Water Utilities

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Supply Agreement for Hydrofluorosilicic Acid for Water Treatment for the O.N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant

# **CAPTION**

Motion authorizing a one-year supply agreement, with an additional one-year option, with Univar Solutions USA, Inc. of Kent, Washington, for an estimated amount of \$192,600.00, with a total estimated amount not to exceed \$390,600.00 if the option period is exercised, for the purchase of Hydrofluorosilicic acid to be used during the water treatment process at the O. N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant, with FY 2022 funding available through 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. This is a supply agreement for Hydrofluorosilicic acid for the O.N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant (ONSWTP). 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 ONSWTP, enough fluoride is added to bring the fluoride level to the optimal recommended level of 0.7 mg/L.

The current contract with Penco provides the chemical at \$432.00 per ton for a period of two years for 900 tons at \$388,800.00. This new contract with Univar Solutions provides a savings in the first year \$1,800.00 for a price of \$428 per ton for 450 tons at \$192,600.00. The bid includes an optional second year at \$440 per ton for 450 tons at \$198,000.00. The optional year would be an increase of \$3,600.00.

## PROCUREMENT DETAILS:

The City currently receives Hydrofluorosilicic acid from Pencco, Inc. of San Felipe, Texas. Contracts and Procurement Department conducted a competitive Request for Bid process to obtain bids for a new contract. The City received two responsive, responsible bids, and is recommending award to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, Univar Solutions USA, Inc of Kent, Washington.

## **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 2022 is \$192,600.00.

## **Funding Detail:**

Fund: 4010 Water

Organization/Activity: 31010 Stevens Filter Plant

Mission Element: 062 Treat water

Project # (CIP Only): N/A

Account: 520010 Purification Chemicals

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the motion authorizing a two-year supply agreement with Univar Solutions USA, Inc. as presented.

# **LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Bid Tabulation Supply Agreement