



CITY OF WAUWATOSA  
MEMO

To: **Financial Affairs Committee**

From: **Adam Florin, Water Superintendent**

Date: **May 23, 2023**

Subject: **Memo from the Water Superintendent requesting a waiver of the request for proposal process and approval of a contract with Energenecs for the installation of control panels for the Water Utility's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system**

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**A. Issue**

The Common Council has allocated \$130,000 of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds to be utilized for a Water Utility Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) control panel upgrade (CIP Project #5116). City staff is requesting approval of a contract with Energenecs in the amount of 99,987.43 in order to complete this project.

**B. Background/Options**

The Water Utility uses a SCADA system to operate the City's water pumping stations, water reservoirs, and water towers. The system consists of software and hardware elements that allow staff to observe and control water operations. The system collects, monitors, and analyzes data from water facilities in real-time allowing operators to monitor and control operations remotely with greater visibility and efficiency than manual observations and/or interventions would require. The water data is gathered by a SCADA control panel that is located at each water facility.

The SCADA control panels at the City's four water pumping stations have been very recently upgraded with the overall station renovation projects and Energenecs was utilized as the system integrator for those projects. The remaining existing SCADA control panels located at water towers, the City Garage, and meter stations were purchased and installed in 2007. At that time proposals were obtained from SCADA system integrators and Energenecs, formerly Kamp/Synergy, was the lowest cost provider and was selected to perform the work. Since that time staff has been extensively trained to utilize the proprietary software that Energenecs has developed and honed internally. Arguably, too, Energenecs knowledge of our system is proprietary, anyone else would need to complete a thorough assessment but only over time would get to know our system at the high level Energenecs does. Energenecs has programmed and maintained our SCADA system for over a decade with extremely excellent response time in emergency situations. Moving forward with a different vendor could result in having to call two different integrators for issues involving multiple sites which would increase downtime during emergency events. Remaining with one SCADA integrator also allows Energenecs to take full responsibility of our SCADA system and eliminates any disagreements about who is responsible for any given issue.

We are recommending the SCADA control panel replacements due to existing equipment being

obsolete, incompatible with fiber optics and at the end of their useful life. Because of their in-depth institutional knowledge, continued excellent customer service provided to the Water Utility, and competitive pricing, City staff is recommending entering into a construction contract with Energenecs in the amount of \$99,987.43 and waiving of the request for proposal process. The proposed price includes the replacement and installation of six existing SCADA control panels at various locations across the Water system.

**C. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)**

Priority 2: Public Safety & Priority 3: Infrastructure

**D. Fiscal Impact**

Contract with Energenecs in the amount of \$99,987.43 to be paid through allocated CIP funds for CIP Project #5116, for replacement of six SCADA control panels.

**E. Recommendation**

Approval to waive the request for proposal process and approval of a contract with Energenecs for the procurement and installation of six SCADA control panels in the amount of \$99,987.43.