



CITY OF WAUWATOSA MEMO

To: **Financial Affairs Committee**

From: **David Simpson, Director of Public Works**

Date: **February 21, 2023**

Subject: **Approval of a multi-year agreement with Perry Weather for a software subscription for the outdoor warning system at Hart Park**

A. Issue

In 2022 the City replaced the existing lightning detection system at Hart Park Stadium with a more advanced outdoor warning system that serves a larger area of Hart Park. There is an annual fee associated with the system and entering into a multi-year agreement allows for reduced annual fee increases so approval of a multi-year agreement is being sought at this time.

B. Background/Options

In 2022 the City installed two Perry Weather outdoor warning system modules at Hart Park. These modules are off-grid and cellular enabled so that during a power failure the outdoor warning system will still operate. This also allows the system to operate independent of the City's IT infrastructure so no IT staff support is needed for this system. This system automatically warns the public of possible severe weather and it also allows City staff to send other messages related to public safety through mobile enabled software.

Part of the operation of this system relies on an annual software subscription, of which, one year's expense was included as an annual fee with the initial purchase. The first year of operation was successful so we have asked the vendor to provide a pricing option that keeps the costs as low as possible. The vendor has agreed to keep the fee in 2023 the same as 2022 and then increase the annual fee no greater than 3% per year for a term of five years. Given the cost of inflation and the success to date with the system I am recommending entering into a five year contract to avoid potential large increases in cost that we would be subject to if we weren't under contract with the vendor.

C. Fiscal Impact

The subscription is \$3,000/year with a maximum increase of 3% per year subsequent to year one for a term of five years which is paid through the Operating Budget of the park.

D. Recommendation

Authorize execution of a 5-year software subscription contract with Perry Weather for the outdoor warning system at Hart Park with an initial fee of \$3,000 per year and an annual cost increase limited to 3% during the term of the agreement.