

**RESOLUTION No. R-2022-31**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO REPLACE WATER METERS WITHIN THE WARD WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS, ON MARCH 11, 2021, PRESIDENT BIDEN** signed into law the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. The American Rescue Plan provides \$350 billion in assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments through newly established Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF); and,

**WHEREAS, THE CITY OF WARD** in 2021 and 2022 received \$1,108,623.16 in ARPA funds and in October 2022, Lonoke County Quorum Court awarded Ward Water and Sewer System \$300,000 in county APRA funds for the completion of this project; and,

**WHEREAS, A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)** was published in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette in May and June 2022 requesting interested firms to submit a proposal to replace all<sup>1</sup> water meters within the Ward Water & Sewer System with radio-read meters utilizing either an Automated Meter Reading (AMR), an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system or a combination therein; and,

**WHEREAS,** eight (8) companies submitted sixteen (16) proposals each company was interviewed by a Selection Committee of staff members, the Mayor and the City Clerk; and,

**WHEREAS,** four (4) entities were invited to present their proposal to the city council<sup>2</sup> in a working session; and,

**WHEREAS,** after careful consideration it was determined that the best and most advantageous solution for the Ward Water and Sewer System is to utilize an AMI system which allows the Water Office the ability to record all meter readings in the office and provides a “dashboard” to monitor all meters for potential leaks offered by Core and Main of North Little Rock, Arkansas. Additionally, it was determined that Sensus’ IPERL meter offered by Core and Main would be best suited for the city; and,

**WHEREAS,** while other initial proposals were lower in cost than Core and Main’s AMI/IPERL initial proposal, after reviewing each proposal and adding in items that were not in the proposal as required by the RFP (i.e. sales tax, 5-yr costs), it was determined that Core and Main’s initial proposal and 5-year cost estimates is the best use of available funds for this project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WARD THAT;**

**SECTION 1:** The Mayor or City Clerk is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Core and Main for the purchase and installation of the AMI/IPERA meter system without a customer portal for a cost not to exceed \$1,805,663.50 as specified in Attachment 2.

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<sup>1</sup> All or near all depending on the vendor and the meters currently in use

<sup>2</sup> Eric Harbort was the only City Council member in attendance

**SECTION 2:** The Mayor or City Clerk is hereby authorized to expend nor more than \$50,000 in additional funds for the completion of the project for unforeseen issues and/or items mentioned in Seq# 340-420 of the attached proposal.

**SECTION 3:** As previously agreed upon, 100% of all available City of Ward ARPA funds including interest<sup>3</sup>, to include ARPA funds provided by Lonoke County, must be used before utilizing any Ward Water and Sewer System Reserve Funds.”

**SECTION 4:** The use of unrestricted Ward Water & Sewer System Reserve funds to pay for this project after all the ARPA funds available have been depleted is hereby authorized. This total amount of this project is estimated to be no more than the amount shown below.

Cost of Project	\$1,805,663.20
CAPDD Administrative Fee	+\$33,258.88
Additional Costs (Section 2), if needed	+\$50,000.00
City of Ward ARPA Funds <sup>3</sup>	-\$1,115,497.11
Lonoke County ARPA Funds	-\$300,000.00
Sub-Total	=\$473,424.97
Ward Water & Sewer System Reserve Funds	-\$473,424.97
Balance	\$0

Said resolution has been properly introduced and the vote was:

PASSED


YEAS 4 NAYS 0

DATE: 11-21-2022

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

  
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Charles Gastineau, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Krystal Rummel, City Clerk

City Seal

<sup>3</sup> Ward ARPA Fund Balance as of November 1, 2022 (not including \$300,000 from Lonoke County): \$1,115,497.11