



To: Dustin Anderson – Town Manager

From: David White – Supervisor Water & Sewer Division
Stephen Gunty – Director of Public Works

Meeting: August 21, 2023

Re: Purchase of an EZ Valve insertion machine, valves and trailer

Background

As stewards of our community's water utility, we must prioritize efficiency, reliability, and the delivery of clean drinking water to our residents. To achieve these goals, we propose purchasing the EZ Valve insertion machine, a crucial asset that will greatly enhance our utility's performance by improving our maintenance efficiency. It is sold exclusively by Advance Valve Technologies its sole source supplier.

The EZ Valve handles emergency shut-offs of watermain breaks on pipes ranging from 4" through 12". This versatile tool inserts a valve on live water mains to shut off water to pipe sections where other valves have failed to perform. It's a problem we're seeing more frequently due to our aging water infrastructure system. This significantly reduces water outages and service disruptions during maintenance and repair work. By minimizing the number of customers affected, we can maintain uninterrupted water delivery and uphold our commitment to customer satisfaction and the high standard of service our community expects. Substantial long-term benefits include prompt identification and repair of broken valves preventing potential larger issues from developing and ensuring the longevity of our infrastructure. This aligns perfectly with our utility's goals and mission to enhance our reputation for excellence and deliver long-term cost savings.

We've contracted-out many EZ Valve installations with positive results during water main reconstruction projects underscoring their invaluable contribution to minimize customer impact. By installing these valves ourselves, we will save about \$3,000 on each install compared to outsourcing it. The acquisition cost of \$119,894.31 covers the tool and assortment of 2 insert-a-valves for each main size. We received 3 quotes on an accessory enclosed transport & storage trailer with the lowest price from Valpo Trailer at \$7,125.00 thus totaling \$127,019.31 for this strategic cost-effective investment.

Link to brief installation video: <https://youtu.be/68VooFI2jLc>

Budget Note

Listed in our 2023 CIP as a 2022 carryover, this purchase will be funded from the water budget.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, approve purchase of a new EZ Valve insertion machine and valves from Advance Valve Technologies for a cost of \$119,894.31 and purchase of a "Darkhorse" 7 x 14 enclosed trailer from Valpo Trailer for a cost of \$7,125.00. Total purchase price is \$127,019.31 for this package.