



To: Dustin Anderson – Town Manager

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

Meeting: August 21, 2023

Re: Purchase a comprehensive water valve assessment / exercise program

Background

We face critical challenges in locating and operating valves during watermain breaks and fire emergencies due to the absence of a comprehensive valve assessment program, that this proposal from M.E. Simpson addresses. They are a distinguished Professional Services Firm renowned for its exceptional track record in delivering water distribution system programs and services recognized as "Best Management Practices" for utilities. Their expertise and experience in the Town of Munster, make them the ideal candidate and the sole source candidate to undertake the water valve assessment/exercise program in our town.

Methodology

The main objectives of this assessment are to determine the condition, operability, position, and location of approximately 1,500 valves throughout the town. This is a 3-year contract with M.E. Simpson during which they will exercise 500 valves per year, much like our hydrant flushing program.

The benefits of this program are substantial and will be both immediate and long-term: a) enhance our emergency response capabilities, b) faster more efficient response times during crises, c) reduce impacts/damages of water main breaks by enabling us to isolate and control water flow promptly, d) improve the water supply system's overall reliability resulting from regular assessments that will lead to targeted valve replacements/maintenance.

Budget Note

This purchase will be funded from the water budget.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, approve the comprehensive valve assessment program quoted by M.E. Simpson for a three-year period for \$29,000 in 2023, \$29,000 in 2024 and \$30,000 in 2025. An additional GPS data locate/record fee of \$10 per valve will be charged the Town for any discovered valves that are not already GPS located in the Town's water infrastructure map database.