



To: Board of Parks and Recreation  
From: Mark Heintz - Director of Parks and Recreation  
Date: January 17, 2023  
Re: Community Park Social Center electrical upgrades recommendation

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**Background:**

The department hosts many activities at the Community Park Social Center on an annual basis including being home to the Keen-Ager program. The facility is also frequently rented for various private events such as birthdays, anniversaries, first communions, baptisms, graduations, quinceanaras, baby showers, bridal showers, etc. Many of these events bring family and friends to celebrate from far distances, and often include elaborate decorations, entertainment, and special food/desserts.

**Methodology:**

To ensure that the facility does not experience electrical issues that would disrupt or cause the cancelation of events on their special day and to allow for the department to have a facility available during times of electrical outages, proposals were sought to improve the electrical operations at the Social Center which included a backup generator.

Proposals were also requested to include the electrical work needed for the construction of a new garage just south of the Social Center to replace the aged warming shelter storage facility. The electrical for the garage is fed from the Social Center and will include interior lights, exterior lights and electrical outlets for the new garage.

The Town's 2022 GO bond included a budget of \$40,000 for electrical upgrades to the Social Center to meet the above need. This figure was budgeted to cover the anticipated expense to update electrical panels in the building, add outlets in key areas, add a backup generator and the electric for the neighboring storage garage. Three proposals were received for this work from local electrical contractors.

Midwestern Electric LLC, East Chicago, Indiana	\$42,750
Sweney Electric Company, Inc. Merrillville, Indiana	\$46,600
EMCOR Hyre Electric, Highland, Indiana	\$47,980

There are available balances from previous Park bond issues which can cover the additional expense over the budgeted \$40,000.

**Recommendation:**

Staff is recommending the award of the Community Park Social Center electrical upgrades to Midwestern Electric for a total cost of \$42,750.