

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR NETWORK EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

BACKGROUND:

In April 2007, bids were solicited and a contract awarded to conduct an IP Telephony Readiness Assessment study to assist in the planning and preparation of the existing network infrastructure for a future voice/data convergence (IP Telephony). The study provided an evaluation of the existing network, a readiness report for IP Telephony conversion, and a phased plan for successful IP telephony implementation.

Based on the results of this study, proposals to upgrade hardware and maintenance of the City Hall, Power Plant, CyRide, Parks & Recreation, and Ice Arena network were solicited in June 2008. Four bid requests were sent out. One response was received from Vital Support Systems of Urbandale, Iowa, as follows:

City Hall Data Center	\$17,326.00
City Hall – 1 st Floor Closets – South	7,022.60
City Hall – 1 st Floor Closets – North	4,437.10
City Hall – 2 nd Floor Closets – South	4,437.10
City Hall – 2 nd Floor Closets – North	7,022.60
CyRide Office & Maintenance Shop	7,472.70
Parks & Recreation Administration Offices	7,163.75
Ames Ice Arena	1,463.15
Power Plant	16,950.50
Electric Administration	<u>4,299.20</u>
GRAND TOTAL:	\$77,594.70

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

Information Technology	\$7,022.60
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The Information Technology Manager has reviewed the proposals and determined that in order to be within budget, the Electric Administration portion of \$4,299.20 will not be done at this time. The total from Vital Support Systems is \$77,594.70 less \$4,299.20 for a new total of **\$73,295.50**.

There is \$74,718 in budgeted funding available for the network upgrades.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Vital Support Systems, Urbandale, Iowa, for the network equipment upgrade at a cost of \$73,295.50.
2. Award a contract to Vital Support Systems, Urbandale, Iowa, for all base bid items at \$77,594.70.
3. Reject proposals and delay the network equipment upgrade.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving an agreement between the City of Ames and Vital Support Systems for the network equipment upgrade at a cost of \$73,295.50, the City will increase the performance and capacity to CyRide, the Ice Arena, and Parks & Recreation Administration, and position all the locations for a future successful IP telephony implementation.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby awarding a contract to Vital Support Systems, Urbandale, Iowa, for the network equipment upgrade at a cost of \$73,295.50.