



Legislation Text

File #: 1298-2022, Version: 1

BACKGROUND: This ordinance authorizes the Director of Public Utilities to modify and increase a contract with Sensus USA Inc. to provide ongoing software, hardware, and maintenance of the system that is required as part of the Enhanced Meter Project legislated under ordinance 1024-2020. During negotiations with the selected vendor for the Enhanced Meter Project, the department determined that using a Software-as-a-service (SAAS) and Managed Services model, which will include the vendor hosting all data and software on their computer servers as well as maintaining the system, is in the best interest of the City and the Division of Water. This operating contract is for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the system and software to ensure the system implemented as part of the Enhanced Meter Project is usable. As legislated under Ord #1024-2020, the Enhanced Meter Project CIP will replace outdated and underperforming meters, install radio transmitting infrastructure to allow wireless readings relayed to the billing software at a central location, and provide an environmentally efficient way to read meters. This is an operating contract which was negotiated after a vendor was selected as part of the Enhanced Meter Project legislated under Ordinance 1024-2020.

The Initial Term of the contract is from the date of execution through March 31, 2026. The contract is subject to annual funding approval by Columbus City Council between 2021 to 2025 during the Initial Term. The Maximum Obligation for the first year of this contract between the contract execution and March 31, 2021 was \$275,000.00, and the second year was \$1,625,000.00. The Division of Water now wishes to add \$250,000.00 in funding for the third year of the contract between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023. If unforeseen issues or difficulties are encountered that would require additional funding, a modification would be requested. The City may, at its option, perform a contract modification under the same terms and conditions, for fifteen additional one-year terms after the Initial Term. Costs for these renewals after the initial term will be negotiated at a future date.

SUPPLIER: SENSUS USA, Inc. #51-0338883, (exp. 3/14/24, MAJ, DAX#008960)

The company is not debarred according to the Excluded Party Listing System of the Federal Government or prohibited from being awarded a contract according to the Auditor of State Unresolved Findings for Recovery Certified Search.

1. Amount of additional funds: The amount of additional funds needed for this contract is \$250,000.00. The funding for the first year of the contract, from contract execution through March 31, 2021, was \$275,000.00. The funding for the second year of the contract, from contract execution through March 31, 2022, was \$1,350,000.00. This ordinance authorizes an additional \$250,000.00 for the third year of the contract, from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023, for a total obligation of \$1,875,000.00.

2. Reason the need for additional funds was not foreseen: The need for additional funds was foreseen and provided for in the original contract. The Initial Term of the contract is from the date of execution through March 31, 2026. This ordinance provides funding for the second year of the contract.

3. Reason other procurement processes were not used: The Initial Term of the contract is from the date of execution through March 31, 2026. The City may, at its option, perform a contract modification under the same terms and conditions, for fifteen additional one-year terms after the Initial Term. Costs for these renewals after the initial term will be negotiated at a future date. No lower pricing/more attractive terms and conditions are anticipated at this time.

4. How cost was determined: The cost, terms, and conditions are in accordance with the original agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$250,000.00 is budgeted and available for this contract in the Water Operating Fund.

\$0.00 was spent in 2020.

\$654,372 was spent in 2021.

\$327,186 has been spent so far in 2022.

EMERGENCY DESIGNATION: is not requested at this time.

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to modify and increase a contract with Sensus USA, Inc. for ongoing software, hardware, and maintenance of the system that is required as part of the Enhanced Meter Project for the Division of Water; and to authorize the expenditure of \$250,000.00; (\$250,000.00)

WHEREAS, during negotiations with the selected vendor for the Enhanced Meter Project authorized under Ordinance 1024-2020, the Division of Water determined that using a Software-as-a-service (SAAS) and Managed Services model, which will include the vendor hosting all data and software on their computer servers as well as maintaining the system, is in the best interest of the City and its customers; and

WHEREAS, the contract provides for the ongoing software, hardware, and maintenance of the system that is required as part of the Enhanced Meter Project; and

WHEREAS, the initial term of the contract is from the date of execution through March 31, 2026. Funding will be requested for this contract each year subject to approval by Columbus City Council; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance provides funding for the third year of the contract from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, funding for the third year of the contract shall not exceed \$250,000.00. If unforeseen issues or difficulties are encountered that would require additional funding, a modification would be requested; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance authorizes the expenditure of \$250,000.00, or so much thereof as may be needed, with Sensus USA, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the City may, at its option, perform a contract modification under the same terms and conditions, for fifteen additional one-year terms after the Initial Term. Costs for those renewals after the initial term will be negotiated at a future date; and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities, Division of Water, to authorize the Director to modify and increase a contract for ongoing software, hardware, and maintenance of the system that is required by the Enhanced Meter Project, with Sensus USA, Inc.; **now, therefore**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Utilities be and is hereby authorized to modify and increase a contract for ongoing software, hardware, and maintenance of the system that is required as part of the Enhanced Meter Project for the Division of Water in the amount of \$250,000.00, with Sensus USA, Inc., 637 Davis Drive, Morrisville, NC 27560, in accordance with the terms and conditions as shown in the agreement on file in the office of the Division of Water. Total amount of Modification No. 2 is \$250,000.00. Total contract amount including this modification is \$1,875,000.00

SECTION 2. That said firm shall conduct the work to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Utilities and the Administrator of the Division of Water.

SECTION 3. That this modification is in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to contract renewals and modifications.

SECTION 4. That the expenditure of \$250,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed, is hereby authorized in Fund 6000 Water Operating Fund in object class 03 (Services) per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 5. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 6. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.