



MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2023

TO: Mayor Jordan and City Council

THRU: Susan Norton, Chief of Staff
Chris Brown, Public Works Director

FROM: Terry Gulley, Asst Public Works Director - Ops

DATE:

SUBJECT: **A resolution to approve the purchase of brine making equipment from Cargill Salt – Road Safety in the amount of \$116,521.00 plus any applicable sales taxes pursuant to a Sourcewell Cooperative purchasing contract, and approval of a budget adjustment.**

RECOMMENDATION:

A resolution to approve the purchase of brine making equipment from Cargill Salt – Road Safety in the amount of \$116,521.00 plus any applicable sales taxes pursuant to a Sourcewell Cooperative purchasing contract, and approval of a budget adjustment.

BACKGROUND:

Salt brine is a solution of salt (typically sodium chloride) and water. It has a freezing point lower than pure water and, as such, is a useful tool in reducing the adhesion of snow and ice to road surfaces. The Transportation division produces salt brine and uses it as a pretreatment to maintain clear streets during ice and snow events. The first brine generator was purchased in 2003. It provided a mechanism to pretreat the City's roadways prior to the start of a winter storm. This method has increased the efficiency of the division to return the citizens' ability to safely navigate around town and return to their normal lifestyle in the shortest amount of time.

DISCUSSION:

This machine has served us well over the last 20 years, but due to the growth of the city and the volume of brine it can produce, it does not function at the level needed to provide the level of service needed by the division. Currently, both salt brine and beet juice along with rock salt are used to clear the streets of snow and ice. With the purchase of this new brine maker, we will also gain the ability to blend these combinations in the solution to obtain the maximum results by using the minimum mixture needed to accomplish the task. This brine maker will be automated to make a preset concentration of solution, thus maintaining a precise percentage of salt content. This unit also provides us with the ability to remove any impurities from the process without having to shut down production and disassemble the machine in order to clean out the hopper, which will allow more production time, thus increasing efficiency.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

Approval of a budget adjustment from Use of Fund Balance (Street Fund Reserves) would increase funding to purchase brine making equipment.

Mailing address:

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ATTACHMENTS: 2023-428 SRF Brine Making Equipment, 2023-428 BA Brine Making Equipment, Brine Quote 2.10.23