



PUBLIC WORKS STAFF REPORT

MEMO DATE: January 16, 2019
MEETING DATE: January 21, 2019
TO: Village Board
FROM: JJ Larson, Director of Public Works & Utilities

RE: Water Tower Lighting Project

BACKGROUND

The Village Water Utility completed construction of the water tower near I-94 in 2014. The project fulfilled many needs for the water system; it added long overdue storage capacity, brought increased system pressure to the north end, and made future growth to the north and west possible.

This vital piece of infrastructure also serves as a very aesthetically pleasing advertisement for our community, particularly our increasingly full Commerce Park; but only during the daylight hours, as the tower is not presently lit at night.

The subject of lighting the tower has been discussed and supported by the Utility Commission.

OVERVIEW

Lighting the tower will draw attention to the community and our growing business district, particularly to those travelling west along I-94 where the tower can be seen for many miles.



Roughly 40,000 vehicles drive along this stretch daily according to the most recent data from the DOT.

With the recent creation of TID 10, this project could help draw attention and investment to the north of the interstate as well. Additionally, adding lights to the area will deter congregation and illegal activity around our important Utility structure.

Utility Chair, Charlie Rogers, has done the leg-work to get the specs and pricing on the needed pole and LED lighting to effectively and efficiently light the tower (\$6,083.39). It is anticipated the total installation (pole, conduit, wiring and mounting) will add another \$9,000 bringing the total projected cost to \$15,000.

During this year's Utility budget discussion, the direction from the Commission was to investigate the feasibility and possibly request the use of TID 5 funding for the project from the Village Board. This request must come as a formal recommendation from the Commission and must qualify according to the TID 5 Project Plan.

The only area of the TID #5 Project Plan that could potentially justify the use of TID money for water tower lighting would be under "beautification". The description says: "street trees, or other landscape features used to invite quality development that exists in TID #5."

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Commission feels that the lighting of the tower qualifies as "beautification" and recommends to the Village Board that they approve the use of TID dollars for this project. If there is uncertainty then Utility dollars could still be used, as discussed during budget discussions.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At the January 9th, 2019 meeting the Utility Commission unanimously approved recommending use of TID 5 funds to light the water tower.



Motion by Rogers, seconded by Hackel to recommend to the Village Board that TID 5 funds be utilized for the lighting of the water tower under “beautification” in the TID 5 Project Plan. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote, 5-0-0.