



## **CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

### **City Council Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** 10-19-2020

**Prepared By:** Kevin Schone- Public Works Director

**Agenda Item:** Emergency Repairs WWTP #2

**Explanation:** On Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup> the City experienced 6 - 9 inches of rain. Because of this, there were increased flows at wastewater treatment plant #2. There were a couple more days of rain after this heavy rain event and on Wednesday July 22<sup>nd</sup> the Huber Step Screen alarmed and staff responded to find the step screen was damaged. At that time plant personnel noticed large sticks, hickory nuts, minnows and sand in the trough leading to the automated bar screen and believe this was what lead to the damage screen. Huber Technologies was contacted at that time to assess the damage and to provide a quote for the necessary repairs. Huber made their visit to the treatment plant on September 9, 2020 to assess damages. The damage repair quote for the step screen with Huber Technologies is \$63,178.17, this is a single source repair.

Plant personnel were convinced that there was something going on in the collection system allowing this debris to enter the treatment plant, and most likely it was the trunk line. Treatment plant personnel began investigating manholes upstream from the treatment plant and after a few days of checking manholes, a damaged manhole was found just south of Kern Road and east of Cummings. The complete casting of this manhole had been knocked off right down to the creek level by a large tree that had fallen into the creek, most likely during the rain event on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Because of this, the creek was running right into the manhole and to the plant. The Distribution and Collections crew used a rented excavator to remove the tree and repair the manhole and stopped flow from entering the manhole and making its way to the treatment plant.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$63,178.17 unbudgeted in FY 20/21

#### **Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** Although this is an unbudgeted repair, staff has identified funds within the wastewater budget, possibly account #501-00-800-3000 to allow for these repairs. The City's insurance carrier has been contacted to see if this would be a covered claim and we are awaiting a response, however we are seeing the affects of not having the bar screen in service in the oxidation ditches and aeration basins so it is extremely important to move forward with these repairs immediately. Staff recommends approval for these repairs.

**Action Requested:** Approval of the requested amount to move forward with these important repairs.