  
 **CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

**City Council Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date**: 05-03-2021

**Prepared By**: Brian Rittenhouse – Utilities Superintendent

Kevin Schone – Public Works Director

**Agenda Item**: Water Treatment Plant #1 Multi-Port Valve Purchases

**Explanation**: Last summer the city received numerous water quality complaints stating that the water “tasted salty”. After investigating, and consulting with CMT, the cause of the complaints was narrowed down to softener #2 at water treatment plant #1. The softener was isolated, taken out of service, and water quality complaints stopped. It is believed that the multi-port valve was no longer holding during regeneration and allowing salt past the valve and into the finished water.

The multi-port valves are designed to leak a little and over time the salt and chlorine will cause deterioration of the valve necessitating the rebuilding or replacement of the valve. Softener number one has been rebuilt five times and is leaking badly. Softener number two was leaking normally but is the valve that was causing the water quality issues, it has not been rebuilt.

Staff has budgeted for three new valves. Valves would be replaced on softeners one and two. The third valve would be inserted whenever another valve needs to be rebuilt so that the softener can be put back into service immediately while the valve removed can be rebuilt. The rebuilt valve would then be inserted in the next softener when that valve needs to be rebuilt and so on and so forth. Rebuild kits for these valves are approximately $2200.

**Fiscal Impact**: $36,000 has been budgeted in account #500-000-800-3000 for this purchase.

**Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** These are specific valves used to control the Evoqua softening

vessel’s stages of operation and would be a sole source purchase.

**Action Requested**: Approval for a not to exceed amount of $36,000.