



## CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

### City Council Agenda Communication

**Meeting Date:** April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Prepared By:** Brian Rittenhouse – Utilities Superintendent  
Kevin Schone – Public Works Director

**Agenda Item:** Plow Truck Purchase Consideration

**Explanation:** The Fiscal Year 22-23 MERF schedule allows for replacement of a 2011 International Dump Truck used by the Public Works Department. Historically, replacement of these dump trucks has been through the State Procurement Program. The dump trucks available for purchase through this program are International.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$162,000.00 has been budgeted in MERF for the proposed Fiscal Year 22-23 budget.

#### **Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** Staff has been researching different makes of trucks, including International, Western Star, Mack, and Kenworth. The reason for these efforts is due to the lack of reliability of the current make of trucks being utilized by the Public Works Department. We have had several mechanical issues with the International Trucks, with some issues taking months to get repaired. This makes it very hard to rely on them to preform critical duties, most importantly, snow removal.

Staff has reached out to other Municipalities and County's to get their input on what trucks they are using and what they are experiencing as far as dependability. The City of Pekin switched from International to Western Star about five years ago and have not regretted their decision in doing so. We also reached out to McLean County and confirmed that they also had moved away from the International Trucks due to them not being reliable. McLean has Western Star and Kenworth Trucks in their fleet.

After researching the different options for truck chassis', staff received the following quotes below.

International	\$83,000.00	State Bid
Western Starr	\$107,217.00	Sourcewell
Mack	\$118,853.00	Sourcewell
Kenworth	\$133,330.00	Sourcewell (2023 price not available).

The prices above are for the chassis only and do not include the body builds. The body includes the truck bed and snowplow equipment. Staff is still working on these prices but there is an urgency for getting the chassis ordered as soon as possible.

Staff's recommendation is to consider purchase of the Western Star for the following reasons:

1. Shorter lead time, 10 months versus 18 months for an International
2. Potentially more reliable based on information received from other entities.

3. Less time spent by staff taking trucks, or having trucks towed, to the International dealer.
4. Potentially less repair expenses and less stressful for staff.

**Action Requested:** Approval to order either the Western Star chassis or the International chassis.