

Memo

To: City Council
From: Amy E. Gilson, P.E., Director of Public Works
Date: August 10, 2021
Re: Emergency Purchase



In accordance with Section 2-182 of the City Ordinances, this memo is to advise you of an emergency purchase of a new biogas waste gas burner.

At the end of July, I was notified by the Utility Superintendent that methane flare at the wastewater plant had deteriorated and fallen over. It was determined that the corrosion was too significant and it could not be repaired. The flare is critical infrastructure related to the digestion of sludge at the plant. It was originally installed in 1978 with a useful life to 10-15 years according to the manufacturer. The flare was originally budgeted for replacement this fiscal year, but cuts had to be made to facilitate the zero-rate increase. We were hopeful it would last one more year, but it sadly did not.

We contacted Waterworks Systems & Equipment who is the Michigan representative for the brand of flare that we currently have. They were able to sell us a direct replacement flare that would not require significant changes to the piping. The cost of the flare system and appurtenances is \$26,100.00. The flare system was ordered and we are still awaiting delivery.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

cc: Erin LaPere, City Manager