

A G E N D A R E P O R T

DATE October 7, 2003

ITEM: PAYMENT 1 OF 2 – BROADWATER BAY EMERGENCY MAIN REPAIR

INITIATED BY: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT/WATER UTILITIES DIVISION

ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVE PAY REQUEST

PRESENTED BY: JIM REARDEN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the approval of payment 1 of 2 to United Materials in the amount of \$30,000 for emergency main repair at Broadwater Bay.

MOTION: I move the City Commission approve payment 1 of 2 to United Materials in the amount of \$30,000 for the emergency water main repair at Broadwater Bay.

SYNOPSIS: On Friday, July 18, 2003, a report of excessive water flowing from the twin 72” storm outlet at Broadwater Bay was received. A preliminary check was done and it was determined that there was a possible leak on the 30” water main, which intersects the storm drain system just to the east of the outlet. The same day American Leak Detection was called to make arrangements for them to verify that there was a leak and to pinpoint where it was.

American Leak Detection arrived in Great Falls at 9:00 A.M. Monday, July 21, 2003, and by that afternoon verified that there was a leak on the 30” water main and pinpointed the location of the leak. The leak was determined to be under the two large storm drain box culverts complicating the repair. In addition to this complication, the depth of the water main under the storm drain made it likely there would be river water to contend with and also the water main was inside a casing pipe making the repair even more difficult. Considering these factors, we felt it was best to hire a contractor who had the proper equipment to take on a job like this. United Materials was available so we arranged for them to make the repair.

This 30” water main is one of two main supply lines to the Hill 57 reservoir; the other is a 20” main. When the leak appeared, the 20” water main was in the process of being replaced from 16th Ave. NW to Smelter Avenue. At the same time we were having very hot temperatures which always cause high water usage. There was no way we could shut off the 30” water main until the 20” main was back in service. Even with the 20” main in service there was a good chance that if the temperature stayed as hot as it had been, the 20” water main wouldn’t be able to supply all the water necessary to keep up with the demand. When United Materials, the contractor replacing the 20” main, reached a point where the 30” could be fed with water from the 20”, we could at least supply water for domestic use. Residents west and north of the Missouri River were asked to conserve water by not watering their lawns or wasting water in any way.

United Materials started the repair on Monday, July 28, 2003 and completed the repair on Thursday,

July 31, 2003. The main was back in service on Friday, August 1, 2003.

Because of the difficulty of the repair and the long hours required to make the repair and get this vital water main back in service we had estimated the repair charge to be in the one hundred thousand dollar (\$100,000) range.

BACKGROUND: The project was too large for City crews to handle alone. United Material had all the equipment needed to do the job quickly and was available to start immediately.

A contract was awarded to United Materials based on Montana Code Annotated 2003 7-5-4303, which provides for exemptions from bidding or advertising requirements for certain contracts, in emergency situations and which will best serve the public interest.

At this time, the final costs for the project are estimated to be approximately \$70,000 with a final payment to be made within 30 days.

cc: Mark Frahm, Utility Systems Supervisor