CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2024-111 authorizing the City of Joplin to enter into an agreement and work authorization with Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., to conduct a wastewater rate study.

MEETING DATE
March 4, 2024

ORIGINATING DEPT
Public Works / Engineering

ATTACHMENTS
CB 2024-111 Ordinance; Agreement; Work Authorization BMD-24; RFQ Results

REVIEWED BY
Director of Public Works – Daniel Johnson, Director of Finance – Leslie Haase, City Attorney – Peter C. Edwards, Assistant City Manager – Tony Robyn, City Manager – Nicholas Edwards

SUMMARY
This Council Bill approves an Agreement and Work Authorization between the City of Joplin and Burns & McDonnell, Inc. in the not to exceed amount of Sixty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Six and 00/100 no/100 Dollars ($68,426.00).

BACKGROUND
The current sewer rates were established in a rate study conducted in 2019 and became effective on January 1, 2020. Council Bill 2019-161 was authorized by the city to incorporate the City's current rate structure for the customers of Joplin. Those rates were set for a five-year period that will end December 31, 2024. A new rate structure is needed that encompasses a wholistic view of the sewer utility's financial needs. A Request for Qualifications was published on January 6, 2024 in the Joplin Globe. Submittals were received by the January 24, 2024 deadline, in accordance with the city's procurement policy. Of the four consulting firms who responded, 1898 & Co., part of Burns & McDonnell, was selected as the most qualified to perform this service. The fees are within industry standards for this type of work. This study will determine rates from 2025 through 2030 based on current debts, forecasted costs for operations and maintenance, along with capital improvements needed over the study period. The City's discharges from the wastewater treatment plants are regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued by the State of Missouri. Burns & McDonnell's scope includes a presentation to Council of their findings and recommendations; detailed scope explanations are contained in Attachment 1 to the Work Authorization.

FUNDING SOURCE
Wastewater Fund

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this council bill on first reading.