Requested Council Meeting Date: April 16, 2018
Council Bills No. 2018-115
Item: Approval for Purchase of (3) Multi-stage Centrifugal Blowers for Aerobic Digester

Originating Department: PUBLIC WORKS –OPERATIONS

Attachments: 1) Council Bill No. 2018-115
2) Proposal from Supplier
3) Bid Sheet

Department Head: David K. Hertzberg
Finance Department: Leslie Haase
City Attorney: Peter C. Edwards
City Manager: Samuel L. Anselm

Recommended Action: Authorization to enter into a contract with **Lone Star Blower, Inc.** to purchase (3) three multi-stage centrifugal blowers for the Aerobic Digester. This contract is in the amount of $222,360.00.

Background: The city bought the existing blowers and installed them during the plant expansion in 2014. The blowers that were installed were made by Turbflex, and then this part of the business was sold to Siemens (which is widely known for wastewater equipment). Then, this part of the company was sold to Howden. Howden has stopped producing this line of blowers and parts for it. This equipment has been plagued with breakdowns and lack of customer service in repairing these blowers. In 2017 the warranty was completed. City staff has been unable to get Howden to rectify the situation. If blowers are not used in the aerobic digesters, the digesters will go septic.

Discussion: Because of this emergency situation, city staff requested written bids for blowers from four different companies and received two quotes back, with Lone Star Blower Inc., having the lowest responsible bid. The blowers are used to introduce air into the digesters at the Turkey Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility. This contract guarantees a three year warranty on the multistage centrifugal blowers and is a proven technology.

Recommendation: City staff recommends that Council approve the contract with Lone Star Blowers Inc., in the amount of $222,360.00 be approved on an emergency basis in accordance with Section 2.12(4) of the Joplin City Charter.