

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
June 27, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in Special Session on Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas. The elected officials present included Mayor, Elaine Kocian, Aldermen, Gregg Thomas, Wendy Fietsam, Larry Veselka, Howard Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, Billing Manager, Megan Bartos, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker.

Mayor Kocian called role.

Mrs. Walker informed Council that the new proposed water metering system was going to see a 30% price increase starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. The purpose of this meeting is to lock in a quote.

Mrs. Walker professed that the City received Texas Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$360,900.24 in August of 2021 and will receive an additional \$360,900.24 this coming August. This money can be used for improving water systems and some of the first portion and perhaps all of the second allotment can be used towards a new water metering system.

Mrs. Walker then invited Billing Manager, Megan Bartos, to address Council.

Mrs. Bartos informed Council of the process that goes into reading, collecting data, and billing from the water meters. With this new system, Mrs. Bartos exclaimed that what is currently taking about a week and at least 5 workers can be done by her alone in about 10 minutes. In addition to saving on manhours, this new system will have an earlier leak detection alarm and more accurate laser readings, both will save the City money.

Mrs. Bartos stated that the City received three different quotes from Accurate, Aqua-Metric, and Secure Vision of America. However, Mrs. Bartos recommends SVA and their Kamstrup Meters because they are the cheapest and have the most compatible features.

Mrs. Bartos elaborated that the Kamstrups are an ultrasonic meter (no moving parts) made out of a composite material. They can be rethreaded, have a 20-year accuracy warranty, and a 10-year battery life warranty.

This system also comes with access to a customer portal so citizens can monitor their consumption habits. This quote will also include SVA assigning a crew to install and GPS all the meters. Mrs. Bartos concluded saying that she has reached out to other cities of similar size and they have had essentially no issues with the meters and customer service.

The total cost will be \$633,311.01 and can be financed for 3 annual payments at 3.65% interest or 5 annual payments at 3.72% interest.

Alderman Stoner asked about shutting water off to the meter. Mrs. Bartos said that in addition to the customer's personal cutoff, the existing brass top right before the meter on the City's side of the service line can still shut off the customers' water. Alderman Stoner also inquired if there will be an annual fee. Mrs. Bartos answered yes, there will be a \$4,385 annual fee for software hosting.

Mrs. Walker added that by signing this quote we're just locking in the price. We will not be ordering any meters until the new budget cycle (after October 1, 2022).

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to accept the \$633,311.01 quote of the Kamstrup Meters from Secure Vision of America. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32. The motion passed unanimously.