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WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

MEMORANDUM

To: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

From: Roger Kirby, Director WPCP

Date: December 8, 2010

Re: Capital Outlay Purchase for Muscatine WPCP Laboratory

INTRODUCTION:

The Muscatine WPCP needs to replace the existing Autoclave for analysis. The Autoclave is used for E. coli and Total Coliform testing. The City of Muscatine WPCP NPDES Permit requires testing for E. coli on the plant effluent.

BACKGROUND:

The current autoclave used by the WPCP Laboratory was purchased from Muscatine Power and Water as a salvaged item for \$100 when the program was started up in 2007. This original sterilizer was purchased in 1993 by Muscatine Power and Water, which they did not use on a regular basis.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

The Muscatine WPCP has budgeted \$7,900 for the purchase of an Autoclave for the current year of 2010/2011. Bids received for this autoclave are as follows:

Fisher Scientific- \$5,295.39
Midland Scientific- \$5,556.80
VWR- \$5,506.35
Diagger- \$5,705.00

The Autoclave chosen is a Brinkman Tuttnaur Benchtop Sterilizer Model 2340EP to be purchased from Fisher Scientific at a price of \$5,295.39. I recommend a purchase order be issued to Fisher Scientific for that amount. Please include this item on the council agenda for December 15, 2010.

BACKUP INFORMATION:

The Muscatine WPCP plans to expand the program to test fecal coliform samples that are currently being sent to another laboratory, which will increase the demand for sterilized water. To help supplement the microbiology testing, the city also does testing on the septic discharge samples brought in by county residences. We are testing E. coli and Coliform Testing for community pools; Muscatine Aquatic Center, Mississippi Mist Fountain, and the Carver Pool.

Current Eagle 10 Amsco Sterilizer (Autoclave) was purchased in 1993 by Muscatine Power and Water. The approximate age for sterilizers is about 15 years. The current sterilizer has large amounts of rust that flow out of the reservoir when it is flushed out every other month. The Iowa DNR also requires cities to test adjacent streams when sanitary sewer overflows occurs and report the results to the Iowa DNR. The Muscatine WPCP Lab assists Public Works with the testing when these occurrences happen. This instrument supports this required testing.