



**City Council  
Agenda Memo**

**City Council Meeting Date: 9/22/2015**

**TO: Robert Hanna, City Manager**

**FROM: Rodney Taylor, Interim Director of Water Utilities**

**SUBJECT: REMOVE FROM TABLE: Written Resolution Awarding Bid for Purchase of Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer for the Abilene Environmental Laboatory**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

On September 10, 2015 the Abilene City Council voted to table this item in order to allow City Staff time to evaluate the possibility of acquiring a MS/GC instrument from the DCOA Life Science Incubator Facility (incubator). A subsequent site visit to the incubator by City staff determined that the incubator does not own a GC/MS instrument. City staff recommends that the Abilene City Council remove from the table and award the bid as recommended.

On August 25, 2015 the City of Abilene received bids for the purchase of a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) CB-1546 for the Abilene Environmental Laboratory. The new GC/MS will replace an existing unit. The GC/MS was advertised in the Abilene Reporter News on August 9 and 16, 2015. Three bids were received. The lowest bid meeting the minimum requirements of the bid documents was submitted by Shimadzu Scientific (SS) of Houston, TX in the amount of \$93,703.18. City staff evaluated the bid submittal and does recommend awarding the bid to SS.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Abilene Environmental Laboratory utilizes the GC/MS instrument for measuring the concentration of organic disinfection by-products in drinking water such as Trihalomethanes (THMs). The Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulate the concentration of THMs in drinking water. THMs are formed during the disinfection process when chlorine or certain chlorine compounds react with naturally occurring organics in the raw water. The City of Abilene must regularly monitor for THM's at various points in the water treatment process and in the water distribution system so that adjustments can be made in the treatment processes and in the distribution system in order to maintain compliance with the applicable regulations. The existing GC/MS unit is approximately 15 years old and is in need of replacement due to ongoing issues with reliability and the lack of replacement parts.

**FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for the purchase of the GC/MS are included in the Water Department FY 2015 Annual Operating

Budget.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Water Department Staff recommends that the Abilene City Council award the bid to SS as described above.

**BOARD OR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

	Description	Type
▣	Bid Tab Sheet CB-1546-Gas Chromatograph	Cover Memo
▣	Written Resolution-Gas Chromatograph	Cover Memo



**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS, AWARDING BID TO SHIMADZU SCIENTIFIC FOR PURCHASE OF A GAS CHROMATOGRAPH/MASS SPECTROMETER FOR THE ABILENE ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY.**

**WHEREAS,** The City of Abilene (City) owns and operates the Abilene Environmental Laboratory (AEL) located in northeast Abilene; and

**WHEREAS,** the AEL performs sample collection and analysis for both internal clients such as the Abilene Water Department and for other entities located throughout the region; and

**WHEREAS,** the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulates the concentrations of certain organic compounds such as trihalomethanes (THMs) in the drinking water of public water supplies, and THMs are the byproduct of disinfection processes where chlorine and chloramines react with naturally occurring organic compounds in the raw water; and

**WHEREAS,** The AEL utilizes a Gas Chromatograph / Mass Spectrometer instrument (GC/MS) to measure the concentrations of THMs in samples taken from various locations in the water treatment process and from the water distribution system, and

**WHEREAS,** the existing GC/MS is about fifteen years old and in need of replacement due to reliability issues and the difficulty with acquiring replacement parts; and

**WHEREAS,** Shimadzu Scientific submitted the low bid price bid totaling \$93,703.18 for a GC/MS that meets the minimum requirements of the specifications, and City staff, after evaluating the bid submittal, does recommend awarding the bid to the low bidder; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:**

The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Shimadzu Scientific for the GC/MS in the amount of \$93,703.18.

**ADOPTED this 22th day of September, 2015.**

ATTEST:

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Danette Dunlap, City Secretary

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Norman Archibald, Mayor

APPROVED:

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T.Daniel Santee, City Attorney