



City Commission Agenda Report

City of Kalamazoo

Date: **10/16/2023**

Item: **G.2.**

TO: Mayor Anderson, Vice Mayor Cooney, and City Commissioners

FROM: James K. Ritsema, ICMA-CM, City Manager
Reviewed by: James J. Baker, PE, Public Services Director and City Engineer
Prepared by: James Cornell, Wastewater Division Manager

DATE: October 16, 2023

SUBJECT: Approve a contract extension with Alexander Chemical for Sodium Hypochlorite
Bid Ref# 88500-001.7

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a three-month contract extension with Alexander Chemical for the purchase sodium hypochlorite, by volume at a price of \$2.549 per gallon of 12.5%, in the amount of \$289,948.75.

BACKGROUND:

Sodium Hypochlorite is a strong version of liquid household bleach and is an alternative to chlorine gas. It is used for the disinfection of the Kalamazoo Water Reclamation Plant (KWRP) treated effluent prior to discharging into the Kalamazoo River as required by permit. Sodium Hypochlorite is also used for the cleaning of the tertiary sand filters.

Chlorine gas was used exclusively at the KWRP since the mid 1950's thru 2006. If chlorine gas was used, there would be at least 6 one-ton cylinders in service, plus as many as 7 to 10 cylinders in reserve and on site at any given time. Sodium Hypochlorite is much easier to transport and handle. Using hypochlorite liquid reduces the hazards associated with gaseous chlorine. The KWRP has been using hypochlorite effectively in place of chlorine gas since June of 2006.

STRATEGIC VISION ALIGNMENT:

Strategic Goal Impact:

Environmental Responsibility - A green and healthy City.

Safe Community- Creating a safe environment for living, working, and playing

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Appropriate Depth of Engagement

Inform (one-way conversation) – no feasible alternatives available due to legal/regulatory restrictions, standards and best practices, or resource limitations; the community will be made aware of the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funds required for this contract are 289,948.75. The funding available and estimated costs are detailed below. The contract volume of 113,750-gallon sodium hypochlorite cost is \$289,948.75. This contract runs from October 1st, 2023 to December 31st, 2023. We are requesting the approval of this purchase using the funds below.

Description	Account	Project #	Dollar Amount
Wastewater Fund		590-542-04.000-729.006	\$289,948.75