

 **CITY OF**  
*Bloomington* **ILLINOIS**  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

FOR COUNCIL: November 19, 2018

**SPONSORING DEPARTMENT:** Public Works

**SUBJECT:** Presentation, discussion, and direction regarding the implementation of several proposed insurance programs for private residential water and sewer leak protection, water service line protection, and sewer lateral protection, as requested by the Public Works Department.

**RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:** The City Council provide staff direction regarding the implementation of several proposed insurance programs for private residential water and sewer leak protection, water service line protection, and sewer lateral protection.

**STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:** Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services; Goal 4. Strong Neighborhoods

**STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:** Objective 1d. City services delivered in the most cost-effective, efficient manner; Objective 4e. Strong partnership with residents and neighborhood associations; Objective 4f. Residents increasingly sharing/taking responsibility for their homes and neighborhoods

**BACKGROUND:** The Public Works Department is seeking direction regarding the implementation of several proposed insurance programs for private residential water and sewer leak protection, water service line protection, and sewer lateral protection.

Working with the Administration Department, the Water Division of the Public Works Department found that Sunbelt Insurance Group in Chattanooga, Tennessee offers a program called ServLine. This program includes a water and sewer leak protection, water line protection, and sewer lateral protection. With each of these options, the City collects the premiums, tracks the number of customers, and provides other background information directly to ServLine. The City remits the payments, minus the administrative charges, and sends the number of customers to Sunbelt Insurance Group each month.

Jim Karch, Bob Yehl, and representatives from Sunbelt Insurance Group presented their proposal on August 27, 2018 in order for the City to offer Water Leak Protection, Water Line Protection, and Sewer Lateral Protection through ServLine. The City Council gave direction to continue researching the proposals and provided several specific questions to answer. Staff continued to look into these programs in order to answer those

questions. A list of questions and answers, along with a program detail document is attached.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED:** N/A

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** Presentation only. No financial impact at this time.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT:** The Utilities chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan 2035 (Adopted August 24, 2015) includes multiple goals and objectives related to this item.

*UEW-1 Provide quality public infrastructure within the City to protect public health, safety and the environment.*

UEW-1.5 Reliable water supply and distribution system that meets the needs of the current and future residents

UEW-1.7 Reliable and efficient collections systems (sanitary sewer, combined sewer, and storm water sewer) to protect public health, safety and the environment

**FUTURE OPERATIONAL COST ASSOCIATED WITH NEW FACILITY CONSTRUCTION:** N/A

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared By: Michael Hill, Miscellaneous Technical Assistant

Reviewed By: Jim Karch, P.E., MPA, Director of Public Works

Finance & Budgetary Review By: Chris Tomerlin, Budget Manager

Water/Community Dev. Review By: Katie Simpson, City Planner

Legal Review By: Jeffrey R. Jurgens, Corporation Counsel

Recommended by:



Tim Gleason  
City Manager

**Attachments:**

- Answer Document
- Program Detail Document