

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: March 21, 2022

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Johnnie Taylor, Assistant City Manager
Thomas Kureczka, Chief Information Officer

Council Action Requested:

Resolution Approving a Contract with NWN Corporation for the Purchase of Network and Security Equipment

Strategic Focus Area: Service Excellence

Strategic Objective: Ensure Service Delivery Efficiency and Effectiveness

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: Yes



Summary of Information:

The Information Systems Department manages two Internet Service Provider (ISP) data circuits which connect the City's data centers to the internet. Each of these data circuits are connected to specialized network and security equipment that provide connectivity failover and redundancy between the data centers, high-speed internet communications to City departments and facilities, and active protection from external cybersecurity threats.

In consideration of the growing demand for secure and reliable high-speed internet communications by the City's enterprise systems and departmental business applications, a third ISP data circuit is recommended. Additional network and security equipment will be installed to ensure reliable and secure connectivity to this data circuit, which will provide supplementary internet bandwidth and redundancy to facilities on the City's enterprise network. This configuration will reduce the potential for negative impact to core business communication on the enterprise network by allowing the segmentation of internet traffic from high-demand public events at facilities such as The Benton, Carolina Classic Fairgrounds, and Bowman Gray Stadium.

Committee Action:

Committee Finance 3/21/22 **Action** Approval

For Unanimous **Against** _____

Remarks:

Using specifications provided by Information Systems staff, the Purchasing Department advertised an Invitation for Bid for the additional network and security equipment. NWN Corporation was the only respondent and submitted a bid in the amount of \$156,175.43.

Approval is requested to purchase the equipment from NWN Corporation for \$156,175.43. NWN Corporation is headquartered in Waltham, MA with a local office in Greensboro, NC. The approved Information Systems FY21-22 budget includes leasing funds allocated specifically to cover the total cost of this purchase.

M/WBE comment: This project was advertised on the City, State, and HUB websites with 31 businesses notified directly of this opportunity. Notifications were also sent to all local M/WBE and regional HUB businesses.

Exhibit A includes a complete list of businesses that were notified of the bidding opportunity and NWN Corporation's Workplace Demographics.