

**CITY OF GAUTIER  
MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Samantha Abell, City Manager  
**From:** Cindy Steen, Purchasing Agent  
**Through:** Cindy Russell  
**Date:** March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Subject:** Authorization to Advertise for the Ion Exchange Water Treatment Plant

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**REQUEST:**

The Purchasing Division requests City Council authorization to advertise for the Ion Exchange Water Treatment Plant.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Gautier's ion exchange filtration system will be the first water filtration system in the State of Mississippi to utilize the cutting-edge technology of ion exchange. The goals of Gautier's water filtration project are to remove the brownish tint in the water pulled from some of the city wells, with comparative low capital costs and low operations and maintenance cost. Upon study, research, national site visits and several pilots, Gautier's team of professionals determined that ion exchange offers the same clarity as reverse osmosis, with significantly reduced annual operations and maintenance costs.

The City Council adopted its Clear Water Plan January 2, 2013. The plan established three phases for a comprehensive water filtration system. The attached request for proposals allows for the construction of the first phase, given existing water demand and capacity. The first phase will construct a 1 million gallon per day (MGD) Ion Exchange Facility at the Public Works site on Gautier-Vancleave Road. The pipe system will tie four wells to the filtration system, and distribute the filtered water through the rest of the City's water system. These wells represent those with the most significant brownish tint. They are: the town commons well, Beasley well, Honduras well and Gautier-Vancleave well.

It is the professional opinion of Goodwyn Mills and Cawood Engineering that phase one may likely clarify water for all potable water users in Gautier because the filtered water will circulate through water storage tanks and throughout the system. The City currently pumps an average 1.6 MGD.

The City's public works service provider, Clearwater Solutions Inc., will install the pipe connecting the wells related to the filtration system and provide the labor to do so at no additional cost to the city. The RFP will bid out the remainder of the project.

The breakdown of cost is as follows:

\$2,630,000 + \$280,000 Professional Fees = \$2,910,000 (estimated annual payment \$205,000)  
\$205,000 subtracting \$134,000 from annual savings realized by refinancing municipal water/sewer bonds in 2012 = \$69,000/annual budgeted.

There will be no additional costs to users for this filtration project.

Below is a summary project timeline:

- September 2011. Goodwyn Mills Cawood presented to Council a desktop analysis of various treatment options, capital costs and O&M costs.
- November 2011. Based on low capital cost and O&M costs, pilot studies began using Granular Activated Carbon and Ion Exchange.
- November 2011. Gautier contracted with Goodwyn Mills & Cawood Engineering (GMC) for professional services on filtration project.
- June 2012. Final scope of work and cost estimates completed by GMC.
- January 2013. Gautier adopted Clear Water Plan and contracted with GMC for design of Ion Exchange filtration system.
- March 2013. The Council authorized the City Manager and Government Consultant, Inc. to proceed with a three million (\$3,000,000) bond from Mississippi Development Bank for the purpose of a clear water filtration system.
- June 2013. Design complete and permits submitted.
- March 2014. Received approval from Jackson County Utility Authority and proceeded with request for proposals.
- April 2014. Council approves advertisement for bids for the construction of the filtration plant
- Publish in a general circulation newspaper April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>
- May 19<sup>th</sup> open bids.
- May 27<sup>th</sup> Preconstruction meeting.
- Construction timeline estimated through June 1, 2015

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City staff recommends that City Council authorization to advertise for the Ion Exchange Water Treatment Plant.

The City Council may:

1. Authorization to Advertise.
2. Disapprove to Advertise.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Advertisement for Bids



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