



AGENDA MEMO

11/3/2020 Agenda

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Dale Harwell, Director of Information Services

SUBJECT: Approval of Nutanix Virtualized Servers from SHI Government Solutions

BACKGROUND:

Server virtualization is the process of dividing a physical server into multiple unique and isolated virtual servers by means of a software application called a hypervisor. This server consolidation technology dramatically reduces the footprint of computer hardware and provides flexibility for creating and moving virtual servers. Currently, the City has 80 virtual servers residing on 12 host servers.

Last year, staff engaged Sciens Consulting to perform an assessment of information technology including the state of IT infrastructure. Regarding servers, the Sciens report stated:

“The current IS Department inherited a server and network environment that was not logically designed or supported. This environment is inherently unstable and cannot be maintained.”

The report included a recommendation that funding be made available to mitigate these deficiencies. A recently completed project addressed the deficiencies of the network infrastructure. Staff recommends adding this project to the CIP.

Over the last several months, staff has reviewed virtualized server solutions from three vendors. The offering from Nutanix was selected as the best fit for the City’s server environment. SHI Government Solutions is the reseller of Nutanix products through the State of Texas DIR contract. The Nutanix solution enhances data security and protects the City’s data with additional encryption and advanced replication between servers located at City Hall and the Peek Service Center.

The requested amount of \$438,923 includes hardware, software, training, and licensing/support for five years. The first-year cost of \$183,280 will be funded through the capital project and the remaining balance will be funded through the annual operating budget of Information Services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the five-year contract with SHI Government Solutions for Nutanix Virtualized Servers in the amount of \$438,923.