

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Date: March 22, 2012

SUBJECT: Grant application

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks/Management

PREPARED BY: John Munderloh, Water Resources Manager, Jason Elmer, Parks and Recreation Manager

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments/Communications , Consent , Work/Study ,
New Business , Public Hearing , Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS: Memo - Evaluation of Smart Irrigation Controllers

SUMMARY BACKGROUND: The Town of Prescott Valley's (Town) park system provides significant recreational and aesthetic benefit to the Community. Maintaining turf grass requires large commitment of water and must be carefully managed to provide public benefits at the lowest cost possible. The Parks Department Field Operations Staff have done a remarkable job of managing the water use through sheer effort of manpower. This has been accomplished by constant adjustment of the irrigation timers to meet current climatic conditions and prevent under or over-watering. Although this effort has been effective, it requires nearly full-time support during the irrigation season.

Advances in irrigation control technology are available that would significantly reduce staff time required to adjust irrigation controllers as well as increase the efficiency of water use. Staff personnel have researched available technology and have determined that the Horizon Water Management System would be able to provide an annual savings of \$5,000 per year in water costs. Although the cost of the system is beyond the Town's current resources, a US Bureau of Reclamation Grant is available that would pay for the cost of the hardware. Staff is asking for permission to apply for a US Bureau of Reclamation Field Office grant for \$25,000 to purchase and install the Horizon Water Management System. An in-kind match is required. However, the Town will be able to meet the match requirement through in-kind personnel contributions by installing the equipment. Approximately \$4,000 of the in-kind match from the operating budget is a sunk cost since it is a expenditure currently being made to operate the existing system. However, in the long-term, personnel costs will be recouped due to labor and water savings from the new water management system.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS: None

OPTION ANALYSIS: The Council may vote to:

- 1.) approve this proposal, **OR**
- 2.) not approve this proposal, **AND/OR**
- 3.) direct staff to pursue other options.

ACTION OPTION: Consent approval for staff to apply for a Bureau of Reclamation Grant in an amount up to \$25,000. **VOTE.**

RECOMMENDATION: Town staff recommends approval of this proposal to pursue the Bureau of Reclamation Grant

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Description		Cost
	USBR Grant to pay for Horizon Water Management System - 8 Stations Total	\$25,000.00
	In-kind matching costs from Parks Staff and other Town Staff for Administration, Installation and Maintenance - from operating budget	\$25,000.00
		\$0.00
TOTAL:		\$50,000.00

REVIEWED BY:

Management Services Director _____

Town Clerk _____

Town Attorney _____

Town Manager _____

COUNCIL ACTION:

Approved Denied Tabled/Deferred Assigned to _____