

Ideatek Cell Tower Agreement



IT Department

April 12, 2022



Background



- In the early 2000's the IT Department worked to erect six towers around the Wichita area. These towers were put in place to connect outlying water facilities through point-to-point technology. Both the technology and the company supporting it (ETI, Inc.) have become untenable. In 2020 the IT Department started discussions with Ideatek, a fiber company. Discussions about better connectivity for several of the City's facilities ensued and an idea around use of the towers to provide this connectivity resulted.



Background



- The IT Department worked with Ideatek on a small project to provide connectivity to the Public Works transfer station located in the northwest part of Wichita as existing connections to that location had been challenging. The Ideatek solution has been exceptional and city staff at that location have verified that connectivity now through the Ideatek solution is the best it has ever been. This experience prompted the attached agreement with the desire to expand on the previous success.



Analysis



- This agreement provides for sharing of existing tower assets for Ideatek while still providing ownership and future use for the city. Ideatek will take all responsibility for maintenance, new technology installation and support of all the towers proposed throughout the life of the agreement.
- The IT Department has focused on 20 sites that will move from 5MB circuits to 100MB Ideatek circuits. This means those sites have faster connectivity and more throughout at a lower cost. Under this agreement, both parties may utilize the towers for any legitimate use or additional uses that may be of benefit to the city or Ideatek.



Financials



- This agreement stipulates that all maintenance, support, and new installation be at the cost of Ideatek.
- Ideatek will charge a flat rate of \$250 per connection to the City when those connections are available and accepted by the IT Department.
- The total cost to replace the first 20 sites provides a savings \$2,405 per year while increasing the bandwidth to each location from 5MB per second to 100MB per second connections.
- There are no direct costs to this agreement.
- Monthly connectivity costs incurred as stipulated in the agreement will be covered under the Administrative IT fees allocated to all Departments for digital connectivity.



Recommendations/Actions



- It is recommended that the City Council approve the Tower Lease agreement between the City of Wichita and Ideatek, Inc.



Questions



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