



**TO:** Mayor  
Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Jennifer Eckman

**DATE:** February 5, 2024

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PURCHASE – FUEL FARM JET A PUMP**

**I. RECOMMENDED ACTION**

- A. Retroactively approve the emergency purchase of the pump system for the Jet A fuel tanks at the airport owned fuel farm in an amount not to exceed \$76,010.00.

**II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS**

- A. Jennifer Eckman, Airport Director 857-4724
- B. Maria Romanick, Airport Operations Manager 857-4724

**III. DESCRIPTION**

A. Background

On January 14, 2024 the fuel pump for the Jet A fuel tanks at the fuel farm stopped working. The cause was initially unknown, but the temperatures for the weekend were below 20-degrees Fahrenheit. The team of contractors, tenants, and airport staff worked tirelessly for 4-days to find the cause and make a repair that would bring the system back into operation. The Minot AFB, other AvFlight locations, and airports in the region were contacted looking for replacement pumps. Many citizens and visitors to our community were impacted when their flights were delayed or canceled due to this equipment failure.

The City's contractor found that some components in a gearbox had broken. To expedite the process of getting the airport operational, the contractor took components from another broken gearbox and produced a functional gearbox as a temporary measure and the pump was operational on January 17, 2024. The pump went down again on the January 24, 2024, but was fixed the same day.

The temporary repair is not ideal and City staff was informed by the contractor that it is only a matter of time before the pump fails again and is not repairable.

B. Proposed Project

Replace the fuel pump on the Jet A tanks with a two-pump solution. This solution's secondary pump allows commercial airline operations to continue, even in the event that one of the pumps fail.

C. Consultant Selection

O'Day Equipment, LLC is the only service provider in the area able to provide the specific Jet A fuel pump that we require. Therefore, to ensure continued operations at Minot International Airport and to prevent further equipment failures that delay or cancel flights, City staff believes this is our best option. As such, quotes from other companies were not obtained.

#### IV. IMPACT:

A. Strategic Impact:

The fuel farm is a critical asset for the operations of the airport. The fuel is used not only for the general aviation and commercial air carrier operations, but it is used by emergency responders (e.g. life-flight, civil air patrol, LEO, etc.) during life threatening events.

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

The proposed replacement pumps will improve the City and Airport's service levels. It will allow for the continued full-service operational levels in the event one of the pumps needs to be taken out of service for maintenance or repairs.

C. Fiscal Impact:

The Airport budgeted \$10,000 for updates to a different component of the fuel farm in 2024. The remainder of the costs will be covered by forgoing the planned infrastructure upgrades on the Southside of the airport.

Project Costs

Two Blackmer GNX3A 280 gpm Jet-A Pump Assemblies. (Quoted out on QTE07424) Price - \$31,839.00

Piping & Materials, Electrical, Labor, Expenses, and Installation. \*See note below Price - \$44,171.00

**Price Total for both portions. Total: \$76,010.00**

Note: Above Piping, materials & installation pricing is not to exceed bid price and may be reduced depending on work being completed in less time than estimated.

Project Funding

44387 – AIRSIDE FUEL FARM - \$10,000.00

57200 – INFRASTRUCTURE - \$66,010.00

#### V. CITY COUNCIL ASPIRATIONS

The City Council aspirations that are achieved by adopting the proposed recommendation - Resilient and Prepared.

#### VI. ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: The City Council could choose to take no action. The impact of this decision would be if the pump fails in the future it may take more time and money to get the fuel farm back into operations and the lack of fuel could impact general aviation and commercial air carrier operations as well as operations for emergency responders during life threatening events

Alternative 2: The City Council could choose to advise staff to get another quote for a single pump solution. The impact would be financially less expensive, but would leave the airport without an alternative or backup pump in the event the single pump solution fails.

#### VII. TIME CONSTRAINTS

This is considered an emergency purpose as the rebuilt pump has already proven to be a temporary solution and will need to be replaced as soon as possible in order to continue

operations. O'Day Equipment, LLC has indicated an estimated timeline of 30-90 days for the replacement pump to arrive at MOT. Considering the current temporary solution has proven to not be viable, the parts need to be ordered as soon as possible to mitigate an extensive delay in the event that the rebuilt pump fails.

**VIII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Minot International Airport Pump Proposal