

AGENDA

**Recommendation for Council Action**

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting: May 10, 2018

Item Number: **036**

Purchasing Office

Ratify a contract with Techline, Inc., for manhole lifting devices, in the amount of \$155,610. (Note: This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9D Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department	Purchasing Office.
Fiscal Note	Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.
Purchasing Language	Ratification.
For More Information	Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov or to the buyer, Terry V. Nicholson, at 512-3226586 or Terry.Nicholson@austinenergy.com .
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	April 16, 2018 - Recommended unanimously by the Electric Utility Commission on a 7-0 vote, with Vice Chair Hadden and Commissioner Reel absent and two vacancies.
Client Department(s)	Austin Energy.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract provides Austin Energy with the equipment required to safely rescue personnel from manholes. Manholes are frequently accessed by personnel to construct, operate and maintain the electrical system. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations regarding rescue equipment changed, requiring a different rescue system be used by Austin Energy.

After evaluating manufacturers and suppliers who offer OSHA approved equipment, Austin Energy identified the device manufactured by Pelsue and is available through Techline Inc., which is a local distributor, as the most cost effective, easy to use, least obtrusive, and best fit for Austin Energy's rescue operations. Due to the safety risk involved, Austin Energy approved an exemption from the normal purchasing process.

At this time, Austin Energy does not have manhole lifting devices rated for human rescue and thereby is placing its employees at potential risk in the event a rescue is needed as well as not being in compliance with OSHA and Austin Energy safety regulations.