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(ITEM) From the Director of Operations, Department of Administrative Services, requesting authorization and approval of the American Transmission Company’s purchase of easements for the construction of the Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability Transmission Line Project, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability Project (WMCERP) consists of the construction of two new electric transmission lines to support a new electrical substation located at the We Energies power plant on the County Grounds; and

WHEREAS, the American Transmission Company (ATC) will be constructing the new lines that will interconnect into the new substation; and

WHEREAS, the WMCERP was approved in early 2013 by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and subsequently, ATC notified Milwaukee County of its request for easements to locate the high tension poles that will carry the transmission lines; and

WHEREAS, the County had ninety (90) days to negotiate easement language and purchase price, and the Department of Administrative Services engaged an appraiser on behalf of all of the affected departments to determine the value of each requested easement; and

WHEREAS, ATC and County staff from the Parks, Transportation, and Administrative Services Departments and Corporation Counsel were unable to come to an agreed upon price for the easements within the ninety-day window; and

WHEREAS, therefore, ATC proceeded to arbitration on each of the parcels, and per Wisconsin State Statute 196.491(3e), commencement to arbitration automatically granted the easements rights to ATC; and

WHEREAS, as of last week, an agreement was reached on the price of all requested easements for a total offer of \$592,589.90; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation, Public Works, and Transit, at its meeting on June 11, 2014, recommended adoption of the Department’s request (vote 6-1); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting on June 20, 2014, also recommended adoption of the Department’s request (vote 9-0); now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the easement price agreement negotiated with American Transmission Company; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds be placed in Org. Unit 1945- Appropriations for Contingencies Account.

jmj
06/17/14
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