

**RECORD OF SPECIAL MEETING  
ELLSWORTH CITY COUNCIL**

**DATE: MAY 06, 2019**

**TIME: 5:45 PM**

**PLACE: ELLSWORTH CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT: BLANCHETTE, FORTIER, HAMILTON, MOORE,  
AND PHILLIPS.**

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: GRINDLE AND HUDSON.**

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER DAVID COLE, TAMMY MOTE,  
JASON INGALLS, AND JENNIFER MERCHANT.**

*Call to Order.*

Chairman Blanchette called the special meeting of the Ellsworth City Council to order at 5:45 PM.

*Council Order #051900, Authorize the City Manager to purchase an Aldis Gridsmart camera system from Electric Light Company in the amount of \$22,855 and to sign all associated contracts.*

See attachment #1 for the complete request and quote from Electric Light; there was no discussion prior to a motion being made.

*On a motion by Fortier, seconded by Moore, it was*

**RESOLVED to approve Council Order #051900, Authorize the City Manager to purchase an Aldis Gridsmart camera system from Electric Light Company in the amount of \$22,855 to be funded from the Local Roads Account #9090900-59001 and to sign all associated contracts.**

Tammy Mote, Deputy City Manager asked Councilor Fortier to accept a friendly recommendation to add the funding source to the motion. Fortier added the account number of 9090900-59001 to the recommended motion, Moore seconded the friendly amendment. Councilor Hamilton noted the addition of the funding source answered one of his questions. He also requested a very short description of the project for the benefit of the record. Jason Ingalls, IT Systems Administrator explained currently the signal is a loop detection system which means there are wires buried in the ground. The loops detect the magnetic presence of a metal object passing over them. The North bound loop has failed, so that the signal always sees traffic coming from that direction. The fail safe solution when a loop fails is for the system to always assume there is traffic coming from the direction that has the failed loop. Ingalls explained the practice for the past 8 years has been to replace failing loops with cameras. The system the City has been using is the Aldis System which has a 360 camera, resembling a bell. It can be seen in the air at the intersections and in turn it sees the entire intersection and detects vehicle presence. Ingalls explained based on this, the system can be programmed for better flow of traffic recognizing where the traffic appears to be at any given time. The cameras allow the intersections to be seen remotely, which is very helpful if

**Call to Order.**

**Approved - Council Order #051900, Authorize the City Manager to purchase an Aldis Gridsmart camera system from Electric Light Company in the amount of \$22,855 to be funded from the Local Roads Account #9090900-59001 and to sign all associated contracts.**

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problems are called in; this saves the time of driving to the location and identifying the problem. Ingalls explained this system is comparable in price to a loop system when you factor in that four approaches of loops need to be installed compared to just installing one camera. The loop system is impacted by frost whereas the camera system is not. The camera system provides more data on traffic counts such as movement, turning, volume, and classification (car, truck, etc.). David Cole, City Manager noted if the goal is to upgrade the system to an intelligent system in the future the camera detection system is the beginning to that process, as far as building communication between the lights. Ingalls noted this system will not record, it is not a security camera system. They are a live feed only, feeding data to the signal. Ingalls clarified they have a recording function but it is only for trouble shooting purposes. Hamilton noted there is a camera at both ends of Myrick Street; however the intersection between Wal-Mart and Home Depot is still a loop system intersection. Until the failure at the State Street and Oak Street Intersection (by Friend and Friend) is fixed the signal is set by a timing plan, it cannot respond to conditions. Currently, the traffic on State Street will back up because it is a 55 second cycle on State and Oak Streets. Right now it is taking up the whole cycle regardless of whether there is a car present or not. The impact due to the failure is cars are waiting regardless of whether they need to or not because it cannot detect vehicle presence. Ingalls noted loop systems are likely the most accurate systems in the right climate (warmer).

**A final vote was taken on the above motion with all members voting  
unanimously in favor.**

*Adjournment.*

*On a motion by Fortier, seconded by Moore, it was unanimously*

**RESOLVED to approve adjournment at 5:50 PM.**

**A TRUE COPY**

**ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
HEIDI-NOËL GRINDLE**

**Approved -  
Adjournment at 5:50  
PM.**

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