

O-09-25

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY OVERFLOW ANSWERING SERVICE; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A UTILITY SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TWENTY FIRST CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Ark. Code ann. § 14-58-303 requires City purchases exceeding the amount of \$20,000 to follow statutory procedures of local advertisement and opening of sealed bids which may only be waived in exceptional situations where bidding is deemed not feasible or practical; and

WHEREAS, the North Little Rock Electric Department occasionally requires an outside answering service to assist in responding to calls; and

WHEREAS, Twenty First Century Communications has been providing this service in the past, and the Electric Department is very satisfied with their performance; and

WHEREAS, contracting with a new answering service would require the installation of new equipment at a significant expense.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That formal bidding is hereby waived, and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into a Utility Services Agreement (substantially similar to Exhibit "A" attached hereto) with Twenty First Century Communications, Inc. for emergency overflow answering services.

SECTION 2: That the estimated \$34,000.00 annual cost for the service pursuant to the rate schedule attached to the agreement has previously been included in the 2009 budget.

SECTION 3: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 5: It is hereby found and determined that the adoption of this Ordinance is immediately necessary to insure the proper and orderly growth of the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas and is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare; THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Patrick H. Hays

SPONSOR:

Mayor Patrick H. Hays

ATTEST:

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

C. Jason Carter, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/b