



Meeting: Village Board
Meeting Date: 3-11-13
Agenda Item: 5f

Mission Statement

Delivering quality services in a courteous, cost-effective and efficient manner.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: Burt R. McIntyre, President
Village Board of Trustees

REPORT FROM: Director of Public Safety Ed Janke

AGENDA ITEM: Review and take action on the purchase and placement of the new tornado siren

ACTION REQUESTED: __Ordinance __Resolution X Motion __ Receive/File

POLICY ISSUE

Should the Village Board authorize the purchase and placement of a tornado siren?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Staff began reviewing the necessity and placement of tornado sirens in 2011. Staff was directed by the Board in March of 2012 to seek bids for a new tornado siren. Bids were solicited and the siren was budgeted for and approved in the 2013 budget cycle.

The tornado siren was bid according to the specifications indicated by Brown County Emergency Management. There are only two recognized tornado siren manufacturers that offer devices according to the required specifications, and each has a designated sales area. Thus, Federal Signal declined to bid. American Signal was the only company that submitted a bid, which was in the amount of \$25,325. Installation will cost another roughly \$7,000.

Administrator Evert and Chief Janke met with Brown County Emergency Management officials to discuss siren placement in the Village. It was agreed that the most efficient and economical placement of the new siren for both the short and long term would be at the Howard Village Hall.

The siren currently placed at Woodale and Cardinal, which is both smaller and older, will be moved to Fire Station 2 on Shawano Avenue. This will maximize coverage of the Village based on the range of both sirens.

Brown County Emergency Management will maintain the sirens after they have been installed. Brown County Emergency Management is also responsible for activating the sirens. With the National Weather Service's polygon warning system, siren systems can now be zoned according to location, better enabling them to take advantage of sending warnings to specific locations rather than to an entire county. All tornado sirens in Brown County are activated by radio frequencies sent from the Brown County Public Safety Dispatch center.

Appendix A shows the sound propagation of the sirens currently positioned in the Village of Howard. There are population centers as well as outdoor venues not currently "covered" by the existing siren system. Appendix B shows siren placement throughout Brown County.

Appendix C shows the projection of the new “2-mile siren” mounted approximately 50 feet from the ground on Glendale with the green circle. Placement at this site would allow the best coverage in the community with the least amount of sirens and ensure coverage of critical outdoor areas without the securing of additional sites and the purchase of additional sirens. Moving the current siren to Station 2 will provide adequate coverage in the Village.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW

Staff Report Dated 4-25-2011

Staff Report Dated 3-26-2012

FISCAL IMPACT:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Is There A Fiscal Impact? | <u>Yes</u> |
| 2. Is it Currently Budgeted? | <u>Yes</u> |
| 3. If Budgeted, Which Line? | <u>Capital</u> |

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Village staff recommends the Village Board consider all information contained within this report and decide whether to purchase the tornado siren and place the siren at the Village Hall.

If the Village Board agreed with this action, the following motion could be used, *“Motion to authorize the purchase of a tornado siren from American Signal Corporation for \$25,325, plus installation, for placement at the Village Hall.”*

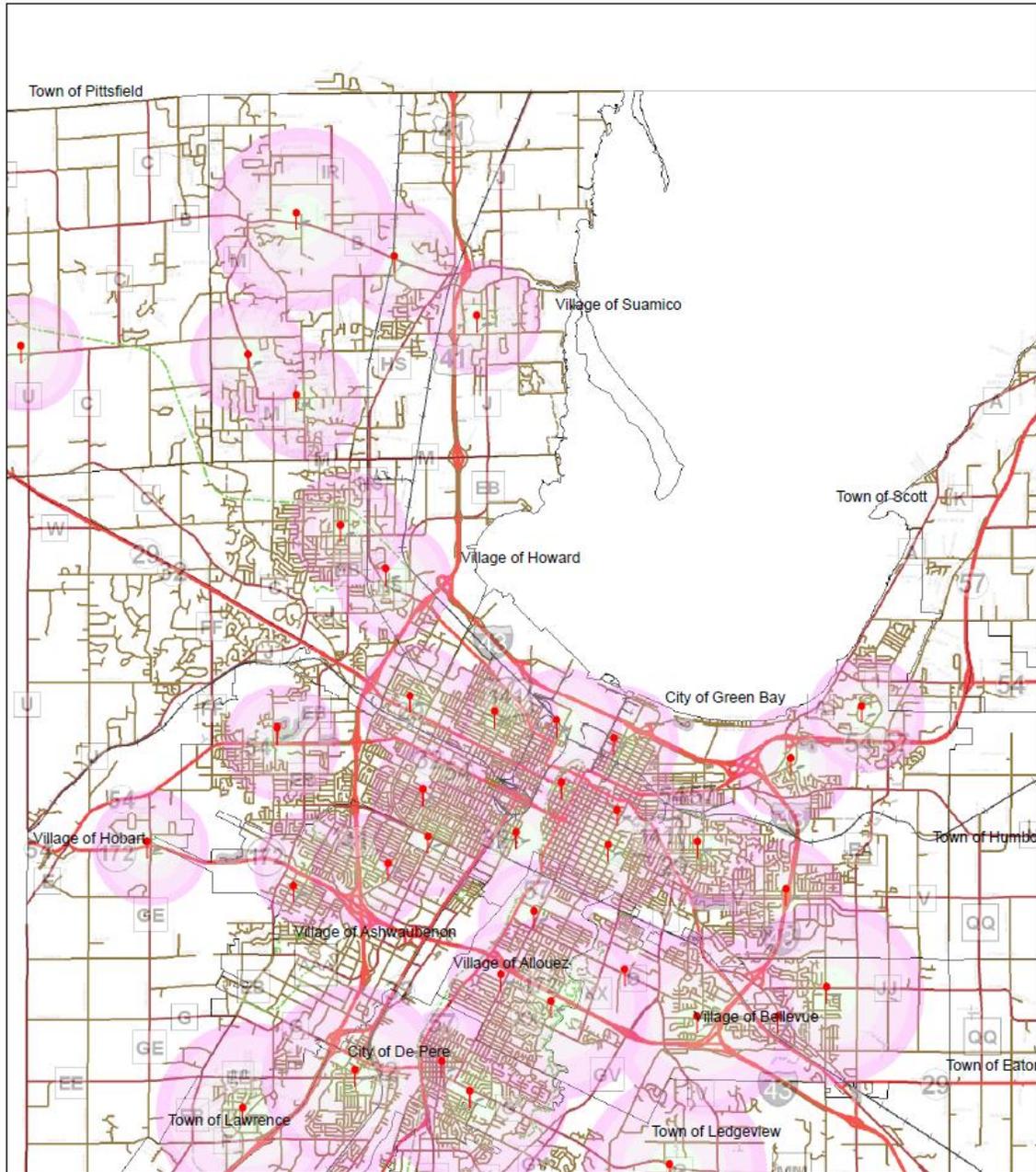
POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)

N/A

ATTACHED INFORMATION

- I. Appendix A – Brown County Tornado Siren Map with Streets
- II. Appendix B – Brown County Tornado Siren Map without Streets
- III. Appendix C – Village of Howard Map – New Siren Coverage placement at Village Hall, Siren moved to Howard Fire Station 2.

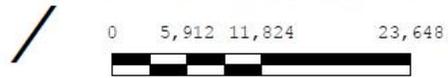
Appendix A



Part of Brown County, WI

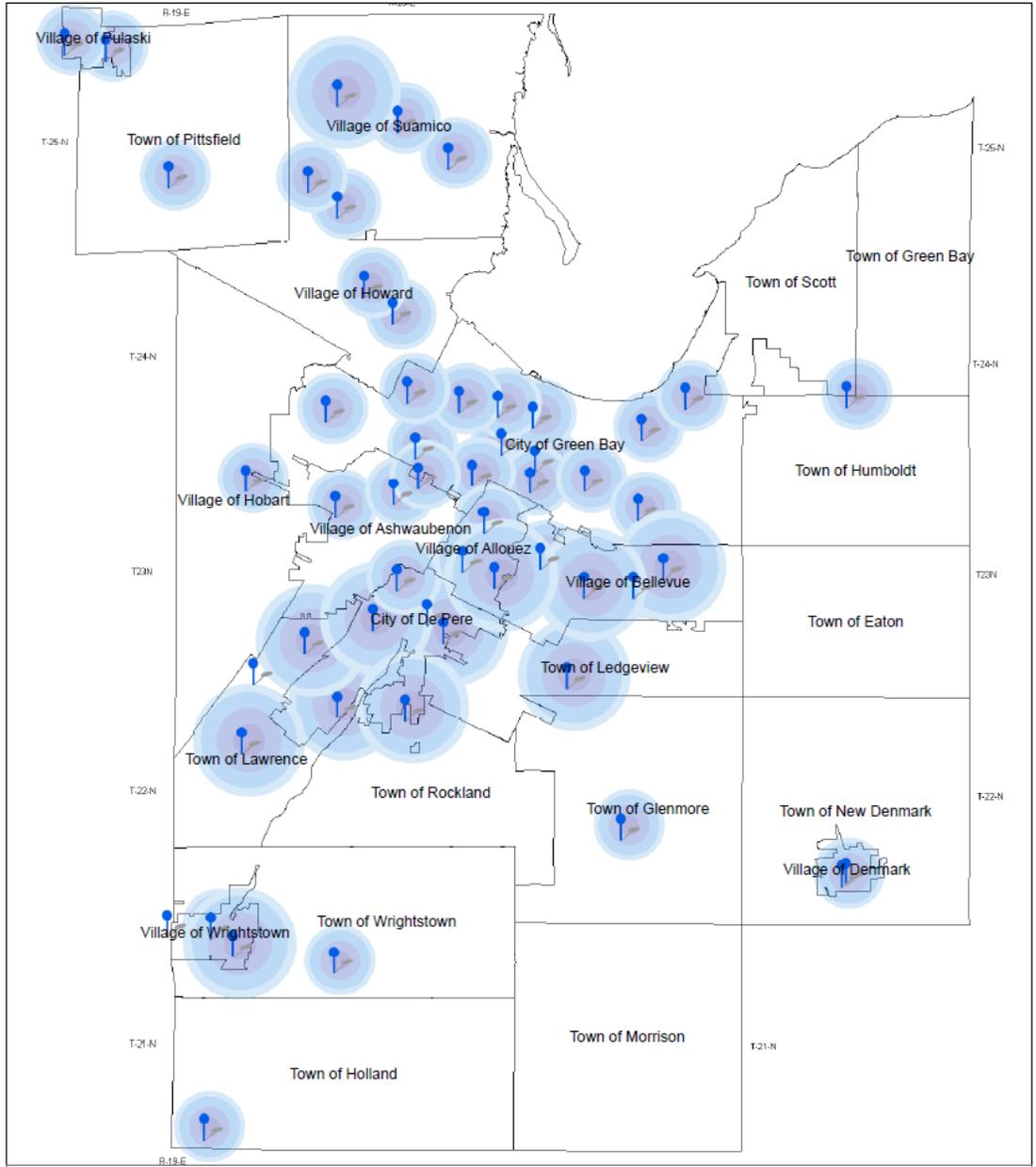
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This map is intended for advisory purposes only. It is based on sources believed to be reliable.

Appendix B



Part of Brown County, WI

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Feet

This map is intended for advisory purposes only. It is based on sources believed to be reliable, but Brown County distributes this information on an "AS IS" basis. No warranties are implied.

GIS map compiled by the Brown County Land Information Office (LIO). Data sources include the LIO group: Survey, Planning, Treasurer, Land Conservation, I.S., Register of Deeds and other departments.

