



**Meeting Date:** 2/14/2010  
**Agenda Item:** 6d

**Mission Statement**  
 Provide quality services in a modern, courteous and cost-efficient manner.

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT**

**REPORT TO:** President Burt McIntyre & Village Board of Trustees **REVIEWED BY:**  
**REPORT FROM:** Geoffrey S. Farr, PE, Director of Public Works PP  
**AGENDA ITEM:** Review and take action on the purchase of an automated water valve operator for the Water Department for \$17,420.  
**ACTION REQUESTED:**  Ordinance  Resolution  Motion  Receive/File

**POLICY ISSUE**

Should the Village Board approve the purchase of an automated water valve operator?

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY VILLAGE BOARD**

Village staff recommends that the Village Board approve the purchase of the water valve operator.

If the Village Board were in favor of this policy action, the following motion may be made:

*“Motion to approve the purchase of an automated water valve operator for \$17,420 from E.H. Wach’s”.*

**POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)**

The Village Board could take the following actions:

- Approve the purchase
- Table the purchase and ask for more information
- Decline the purchase

**STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

Economic Vitality:	<u>Yes</u>
Accountable/Efficient Gov't:	<u>Yes</u>
Enhance Gov't Partnerships:	<u>No</u>
Environmentally Friendly:	<u>Yes</u>

**STRATEGIC PLAN SYNOPSIS:**

Maintaining the Village’s municipal water system is a key governmental function that supports a strong and balanced economy.

**POLICY REFERENCE**

Wisconsin Statutes: N/A

Howard Municipal Code: N/A

Policies & Procedure Manual: N/A

**KEY METRIC SYNOPSIS**

Supplying the needed equipment to maintain the Village’s municipal water system is important in effectively providing reliable and efficient water service for customers.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

<p><b><u>FISCAL IMPACT:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is There A Fiscal Impact? <u>Yes</u></li> <li>2. Is it Currently Budgeted? <u>No</u></li> <li>3. If Budgeted, Which Line? <u>Enterprise funds</u></li> </ol>	<p><b><u>FISCAL SYNOPSIS:</u></b></p> <p>This is an expenditure that should be made to increase water system reliability, reduce labor costs and possibly help find and reduce water system leakage.</p>
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**PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW**

None.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The ERV-750 valve operator is automated to “properly” exercise valves and hydrants to AWWA standards quickly and efficiently. It also automatically: GPS locates; data logs torque, number of turns, date and time information; controls torque to preset limits and reversals to prevent valve breakage. It also synchronizes with office desktop computers to eliminate data entry. It is the only operator on the market that accomplishes all of these things. The unit would be “quick-tach” mounted on an existing truck in the Village’s fleet that has hydraulics available. See the attached photo examples.

The purchase of the automated valve operator will allow summer water department staff to effectively operate all system valves every two years as required in a cost-effective manner. This is accomplished by reducing needed staff skill and labor time by providing automated record keeping and data acquisition. Additional data may also be collected like depth to water, which can be an indicator of potential leakage. Corroded bonnet bolts are a common cause of watermain breaks. Many valves have corroded bolts and can be leaking. Exercising valves within standard torque limits may break corroded bolts prematurely so that they can be fixed sooner resulting in reduced leakage time.

**ATTACHED INFORMATION**

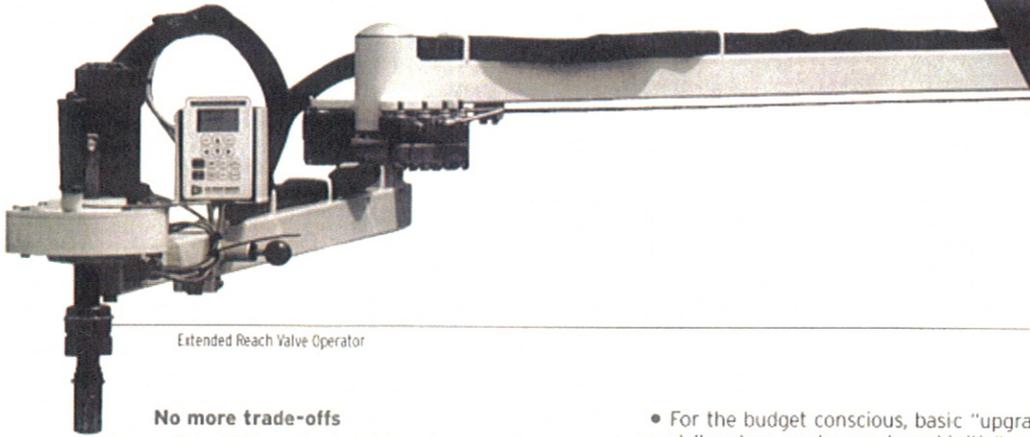
- I. Photos





# ERV-750

Wachs has introduced the ultimate in truck or trailer mount valve turning and maintenance systems. Equipped with the new Wachs ERV-750, this extended reach system now allows a single operator to reach and turn any valve (6" – 60") quickly and easily, even in the most demanding torque situations.



Extended Reach Valve Operator

### No more trade-offs

- Extendable valve turning systems are known to be fragile and lack the necessary torque to free stuck valves. Until now-with the introduction of the most powerful unit in the industry. Incorporating Wachs' **WAVE** technology the ERV-750 ensures that the minimum necessary amount of torque is always applied, virtually eliminating valve breakage. It is fully automated and intelligent, so even inexperienced operators can quickly deal with inaccessible and obstructed valve boxes, safely free stuck valves, exercise neglected valves, and obtain critical information like valve health, valve type, open/closed status, turn direction and torque requirements. All of this information is easily logged, uploaded, stored and retrieved via the Wachs tracking and logging system (VITALS).

- The vacuum system will quickly remove dirt, stone, debris and water from valve boxes and vaults. What won't pass through the 3" vacuum hose (e.g., broken glass, broken valve covers) can often be lifted using the powerful vacuum.

- For the budget conscious, basic "upgrade ready" system can be purchased initially and added to later. Available extras include a hot water pressure washer, work lights, and integrated hydraulic tool circuit (for auxiliary maintenance devices), making this system the most powerful, durable and complete system ever offered.

