



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**

**JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR**

October 6, 2016

City Council President Linda Morad  
Honorable Members of the City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

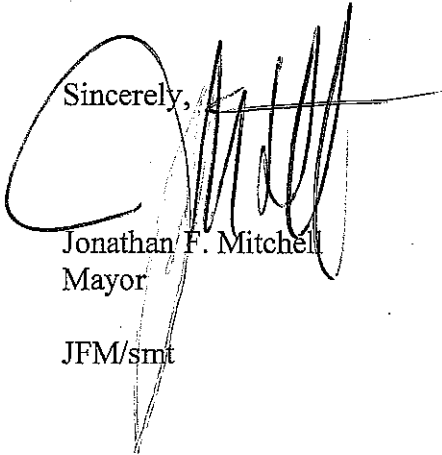
Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I am submitting for your approval an ORDER that the sum of **TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00)** now standing to the credit of the account from **WATER STABILIZATION FUND** be and the same is hereby transferred and appropriated to as follows:

**WATER CAPITAL OUTLAY .....\$2,000,000.00**

To be certified and approved by the Department Head

Sincerely,



Jonathan F. Mitchell  
Mayor

JFM/smt



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

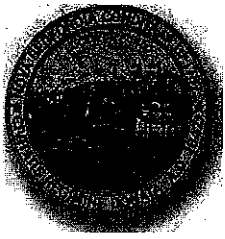
## CITY COUNCIL

October 13, 2016

ORDERED: That the sum of **TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00)** now standing to the credit of the account from **WATER STABILIZATION FUND** be and the same is hereby transferred and appropriated to as follows:

**WATER CAPITAL OUTLAY .....\$2,000,000.00**

To be certified and approved by the Department Head



## Department of Public Infrastructure

Euzebio Arruda  
Commissioner

Water  
Wastewater  
Highways  
Engineering  
Cemeteries  
Park Maintenance  
Forestry  
Energy

### CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

TO: Ari Sky, CFO

FROM: Euzebio Arruda, Commissioner

DATE: September 15, 2016

SUBJECT: Automated Meter Reading (AMR) System

The Department of Public Infrastructure wishes to seek City Council appropriation to move forward with a \$5,000,000.00 project approval to overhaul the city's Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system. We seek to liquidate \$2,000,000.00 from our Water Stabilization fund to be utilized for this project and intend to fund the rest through a bond issue. An estimated \$90,000.00 will be utilized from a previous bond issue, the scope of which is relevant to this project.

Due to the high failure rate of our current Aclara Meter Transmission Units (MTUs- the units that translate water meter readings to the billing system), we currently estimate readings for roughly 2,000 of our 24,000 accounts monthly and that number continues to grow. The ever-changing nature of technology has rendered these units outdated and we continue to encounter problems between the newer-technology water registers and these outdated MTUs. This creates billing errors; consumes billing staff time for adjusting bills; consumes meter division staff time to replace equipment that should not be failing; and more importantly creates poor customer relations, especially with customers who have had repeat equipment failures; and so on.

I am requesting that this be forwarded to the Mayor for submission to Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.