THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: February 24, 2026

Subject: Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) Predictive Modeling Service Line Inventory Contract with Chonzie, Inc.

Staff Resource(s): Bill Hart, Department Interim Director and Brenna Cook, Compliance Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Chonzie,Inc to perform the predictive modeling service line inventory by potholing or excavating to verify service line type for the Water Resources Department.

Background:

- Water Resources is required to build a water service line inventory per US EPA & NC Department of Environment Quality (NCDEQ) regulations.
- Water Resources service line inventory currently has 37,000 service lines classified as unknown sites, which must be determined by October 2027.
- Water Resources is currently under contract with VODA.ai to provide predictive modeling services to help meet the service line inventory deadline requirements.
- Currently the predictive modeling process requires 385 locations to be investigated to supply the predictive modeling software data to determine next steps in the inventory process.
- Chonzie, Inc. was selected to perform the service line inspections required for the project after Water Resources performed the Informal Construction Bid process.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Vendor outreach was performed following the City of Asheville Vendor outreach requirements.
- A search for utilities contractors was performed on the city's vendor list, NCDOT DBE list and NC HUB lists. All vendors were emailed from the list.
- The Informal Construction Bid was posted on the City website and NC DOA HUB websites.

Council Goal(s):

- Improve/Expand and Maintain Core Services

Committee(s):

- N/A

Pro(s):

- This project is aligned with the City and the Water Resources Department goal of continued investment and improvement of the City's water system, in order to provide safe and reliable service.
- The inventory project will reduce the amount of unknown service line material throughout the City's water distribution system.
- The project will also help determine future funding needs to meet the Lead and Copper Rule Improvement (LCRI) regulations posed by the USEPA.

Con(s):

- There are no cons with entering into this contract.

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for this contract was budgeted and is available in the Water Resources Capital Projects Fund.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign a contract with Chonzie, Inc. to perform the predictive modeling service line investigations by potholing or excavating to verify service line type for the Water Resources, the services not to exceed $140,200.00.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 26-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH CHONZIE, INC. TO PERFORM THE SHILOH COMMUNITY SERVICE LINE INVENTORY FOR WATER RESOURCES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-312, the City of Asheville has authority to operate, maintain, improve, and contract for the operation of a public enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-20.1, the City of Asheville may enter into contracts with private entities to carry out any public purpose the City is authorized to engage in; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville performed the required vendor outreach following the City's Terms and Conditions; and

WHEREAS, the use of Chonzie, Inc. will ensure timely completion of the predictive modeling investigations needed to help move the water service line inventory to next steps in the completion of the required USEPA service line inventory;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Asheville, is hereby authorized to execute a general services contract with Chonzie, Inc. to perform the predictive modeling service line inventory to not exceed the amount of $140,200.00.

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Read, approved and adopted this 24th day of February, 2026.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney