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# **City of Broken Bow**

**Wednesday, May 23, 2012**

**City Council Regular Session**

## **Consideration and possible action regarding recommendation of Board of Public Works to not renew Energy Pioneer Solutions Contract**

**Staff Contact: Tony Tolstedt**

# Memo

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council  
From: Tony Tolstedt, City Administrator  
Date: 5/16/2012  
Re: Energy Pioneer Solutions / Utility Board Recommendation

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Honorable Mayor and City Council,

The Broken Bow Board of Public Works (BOPW) recently issued a recommendation pertaining to the renewal of the contract with Energy Pioneer Solutions (EPS). The recommendation of the Board was to terminate the contract with EPS as the BOPW feels the City should not provide billing services for private businesses.

At the last regularly scheduled City Council meeting, the Council began discussion on renewal of the EPS contract following the BOPW recommendation to terminate the contract. During the meeting, discussion shifted at different times to the history, performance, and impact of the EPS program. It is important to note that the recommendation of the BOPW did not pertain to the performance, validity, or results of the EPS programs / improvements. No evaluation of the program has been undertaken by staff at this time.

As the recommendation of the BOPW pertained to the performance of billing services for EPS, I recommend that the City Council initially determine whether the City of Broken Bow / Broken Bow Municipal Utilities should/will provide billing for private business. If it is decided that the City will provide private billing services, Staff will require initial direction as to the standards and parameters by which a private business shall qualify for the service. City staff would then develop a formal policy / process for Council approval.

If it is decided that the City is best served by refraining from billing for private business, I recommend the Council vote to cancel / terminate the contract with EPS. It is not recommended for Council to allow for private billing with EPS without providing for parameters by which other private businesses may also be considered.