

Council Agenda Item 26-0350R



MEETING DATE: April 27, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE: RESOLUTION 26-0350R AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ELECTION POLLING PADS FROM KNOWINK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,160.00.

SUBMITTED BY: Alyssa Denham, City Clerk's Office

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND: The City Clerk's office, with help of the St. Louis County Auditor's office, are hoping to purchase electronic polling pads to replace the paper rosters at polling locations around Duluth. We are slowly phasing these into our election administration with the first set going to the locations that are busiest. We believe that these polling pads will save time in the City Clerk's office when preparing our polling locations for election day, polling pads will also create an efficient and secure registration process at the polling locations on election day.

The City Clerk's office must coordinate with St Louis County in the purchase of election supplies and systems. At this time, KNOWiNK is the only company approved to provide polling pads.

In 2025, Clerk Denham along with, at the time, Director Karla Culhane to test the polling pads that we would be purchasing. It was unanimously agreed that this would be an excellent step in furthering the efficiency and security at the polls. These polling pads will be housed in the County Auditors office as they have the state of MN required server to maintain the updates and security of these devices.

The first phase of polling pads will be utilized by the following polling locations:

Precinct 6 – Woodland Community Center

Precinct 8 – The Vineyard Church (EAST)

Precinct 10 – University of Minnesota – Duluth

Precinct 11 – Vineyard Christian Fellowship

Precinct 21 – Ecolibrium3

Precinct 22 – Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Precinct 24/25 – Christ Lutheran Church

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: This purchase is coming from fund 250-015-2025-5580 CE250-E2501.

OPTIONS: Approve the purchase of electronic polling pads or deny.

NECESSARY ACTION: Approve

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A – Quote for Polling Pads