

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2012-5**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Calvert
6 Councilor Wurzbarger
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9
10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **DIRECTING STAFF TO EXPLORE THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES SERVICE**
12 **LINE WARRANTY PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY UTILITY SERVICE PARTNERS,**
13 **INC., AS AN OPTION FOR PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CITY OF SANTA FE TO**
14 **PURCHASE WATER AND SEWER LINE PROTECTION.**
15

16 **WHEREAS**, property owners in the city of Santa Fe are responsible for the full cost of
17 repair and maintenance of water lines from the City's water meter to the building and sanitary sewer
18 lines from the City's sewer line to the building; and

19 **WHEREAS**, there is an expectation by some property owners that the City will pay for any
20 repairs that occur within the public right-of-way and property owners are often surprised at the cost of
21 such repairs if sidewalk, curb, and/or pavement removal and replacement is necessary; and

22 **WHEREAS**, repairs to sewer and water services are almost always sudden and are
23 unexpected expenses for a property owner; and

24 **WHEREAS**, recognizing such a costly dilemma for property owners, the National League of
25 Cities ("NLC") has implemented the NLC Service Line Warranty Program ("Program"), administered

1 by Utility Service Partners, Inc. (“USP”); and

2 **WHEREAS**, such program is an affordable home protection solution that helps residents
3 save thousands of dollars on the high cost of repairing broken or leaking water or sewer lines; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Program gives residents who have not set aside money to pay for an
5 unexpected, expensive utility line repair the opportunity to obtain a low cost warranty that will
6 provide repairs for a low monthly fee, with no deductibles or service fees; and

7 **WHEREAS**, work is performed by licensed, local Santa Fe plumbers registered within the
8 City of Santa Fe who will call the customer within one hour of filing a claim; and

9 **WHEREAS**, nearly 100 cities nationwide are now participating in the Program (as big as
10 Atlanta, GA, and Milwaukee, WI, and as small as Forney and Crandall, TX); and

11 **WHEREAS**, there would be no cost to the City to offer the Program to their utility customers
12 who would pay, if they so choose, approximately \$4.50 per month for the water line product and
13 \$5.95 per month for the sewer line product; and

14 **WHEREAS**, USP would pay for all the marketing materials and program administration and
15 will be responsible for marketing, billing, customer service and performing all repairs to local code;
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, USP will pay the City a royalty for every resident that participates in the
18 program or the City could elect to pass the savings to the residents of Santa Fe.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
20 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that staff is directed to explore the National League of Cities Service Line
21 Warranty Program and determine whether such Program would be a viable option for property
22 owners in the city of Santa Fe.

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff shall make a presentation to the Governing Body
24 regarding its findings within 90 days from the date of adoption of this resolution.

25 **PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 11th day of January, 2012.

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David Coss
DAVID COSS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Yolanda Y. Vigil
YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Geno Zamora
GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY