



HAINES CITY

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CITY MANAGER MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners

Through: James R. Elensky, City Manager

From: Brian Ross, CGCIO, Technology Management Director

Date: December 7, 2023

Subject: Resolution No. 23-1773 NIST Cybersecurity Framework

Executive Summary

Present Resolution No. 23-1773 and seek adoption of the National Institute of Technology and Standards (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF).

Staff Contact: Brian Ross, Technology Management Director

Introduction

The intent of this resolution is to adopt the National Institute of Technology and Standards (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF).

Background

In 2022, the State of Florida approved Florida Statute 282.3185, also referred to as the Local Government Cybersecurity Act. This act states that each local government shall adopt cybersecurity standards that safeguard its data, information technology, and technology resources to ensure availability, confidentiality, and integrity. The cybersecurity standards must be consistent with generally accepted best practices for cybersecurity, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework. Each municipality with a population of 25,000 or more must adopt the cybersecurity standards required by January 1, 2024.



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The appropriate framework for the City is the well established standard known as the National Institute of Technology and Standards (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF). This Framework was created from a goal to create a common language, a set of standards, and easily executable series of goals for improving cybersecurity and mitigating or reducing cybersecurity risk. The NIST CSF is a general guide to assist with improving our cybersecurity program. The primary benefit of adopting and conforming to the NIST CSF is that it creates a long term and iterative approach to cybersecurity through policies. The NIST Framework will place the City in a more adaptive and responsive cybersecurity posture with the evolving threat landscape and transform us into a state of continuous compliance where threats will be more easily detected and prevented. Enhanced controls and processes implemented under the Framework's guidelines will safeguard systems, information, and data while mitigating risks. Using the NIST CSF also helps ensure the City's future eligibility for grant funding, insurance, liability protection, and utility permits as cybersecurity programs are becoming required.

The City has already incorporated the NIST CSF in its 2023 proposed policies and procedures. The City has also begun taking action to comply with these new procedures to improve our current cybersecurity posture. Passing of this resolution will immediately show the City's dedication to cybersecurity as we wait for the ratification of the updated policies in 2024.

Organizational Goal(s)

Technology: Utilize technology to enhance public services.

Budget Impact

There is no budget impact for fiscal year 2024.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Resolution and adoption of the NIST cybersecurity standards.