

**From:** [Sobkowski, Isidore](#)  
**To:** [Rosenson, Valerie](#); [Donoghue, Tracy](#)  
**Cc:** [Fox, Bridget](#)  
**Subject:** Background IT email for the BoF and BoR  
**Date:** Friday, March 18, 2022 10:35:29 AM

---

Hi Tracy and Valerie,

May I ask that you kindly forward the email below to your respective Board members.

Thank you very much,

--lzyy

--=====

Dear Board Member,

May I ask that you kindly review the information prepared for you, below.

This information is provided to you to offer background and to facilitate discussion in anticipation of presenting to you on <BoF: Mar 22; BoR Apr 21>.

Thank you,

Isidore ("lzyy") Sobkowski  
Chief Digital Officer

-  
-

**IT Overview:**

Stamford IT is transforming from a reactive department to a proactive team. Historically, IT has operated within a tightly restricted budget and has been only able to provide *break-fix* services.

Responding to *ad hoc* department needs, without an overall IT strategy, has left Stamford with a software hodge-podge that is unreliable, unwieldy to service and manage, and increasingly costly to keep operational. Many of our software "solutions" are end-of-life and are no longer supported by the vendor or supported minimally at a cost premium.

Moreover, our aged datacenters are marginally secure and subject Stamford to potential cyber-security attacks, including ransomware.

In addition to traditional efforts, such as supporting the Board of Education, IT is now engaged in three transformative initiatives.

1. **Cyber Security** will be enhanced through two projects (a) fortifying our current infrastructure,

while concurrently (b) migrating most of the computer applications in our datacenters to the secure cloud.

2. **Cloud migration** of our desktops to the Office 365 platform, will provide a secure and collaborative work environment for in-office and remote workers.
3. **Cloud based ERP** (Enterprise Resource Planning) will provide a secure, city-wide, comprehensive financial platform.

Note: Items 1 and 2 are proposed to be funded by a \$2.5 million ARP grant.

Note: Item 3 is ongoing and budgeted.

Each initiative is part of a holistic digital transformation strategy to make the city more cyber-secure, more productive, and position the city for economic growth. For example, through IT Governance and through Data Governance, “management by metrics” will be enabled through cross-departmental analytical dashboards.

**Headcount**

**FY 2021/2022:** IT added the following positions:

- Chief Digital Officer (Izzy Sobkowski): Overall IT responsibility; Operations and Digital Transformation
- IT Project Manager (Josie Carpanzano): ERP Deployment
- Security/Cloud Architect (Open): Funded for the remainder of the current fiscal year
- Information Manager (Open): Funded for the remainder of the current fiscal year
- Data Administrator (Open): Funded for the remainder of the current fiscal year

Note: Each initiative is long-term, and each initiative will require ongoing technical attention (N.B., the staffing requirements are not suited for contract work)

**FY 2022/2023:** IT is requesting continued funding for the three open positions

<b>Status</b>	<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Open Position	Cyber Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve current cyber infrastructure</li> <li>• Ongoing vigilance and cyber enhancements to on-premises and cloud environments</li> </ul>	\$145,000
Open Position	Cloud Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloud migration and operations of on-premises infrastructure to the cloud</li> <li>• Including data centers and desktops</li> </ul>	\$120,000
Open Position	ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical administration of ERP system</li> </ul>	\$90,000

