

**ALPENA COUNTY I.T. DEPARTMENT**

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DATE: October 20, 2021  
TO: Finance Committee  
FROM: Steve Mousseau, I.T. Director  
SUBJECT: Spare switch

The current lead time to purchase a new or replacement switch is over 100 days. Until recently the average lead time was 5-7 days. With such short lead times we did not have an issue with replacement if a switch failed. With the current prolonged lead times, if we have a switch failure we could end up with an extended down time for a number of users and or devices. As a work around I would like to purchase a switch that we could put on the shelf so we would have a ready replacement in the event of a failure.

This presents a problem from a budget perspective. If I order a switch today, I would not be billed for it until it ships to us in 2022. This was not included in my 2022 budget.