



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
City Council Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: July 1, 2024

Prepared By: Dennis Carr, P.E. – City Engineer
Brian Rittenhouse – Public Works Director

Agenda Item: Bid Award – WTP1 Chlorination Upgrade Project

Explanation: Staff solicited bids for the WTP1 Chlorination Upgrade Project and originally received bids from two contractors (Leander @ \$887,000 and Peoria Metro @\$469,000). Both bids exceeded the engineer’s estimate.

The main component of the project, the chlorine scrubber, was specified to be Purafil or equal. Purafil failed to review the project plans and specifications until the day before bids were due when they informed CMT the scrubber would need to be a custom job to meet the project specifications.

Leander submitted their bid with the custom built Purafil scrubber, driving their bid up so high, and Peoria Metro submitted a standard size Drydon scrubber under the "or equal" allowance of the scrubber specifications. Upon review of Peoria Metro's bid and their submittal of the Drydon scrubber, it was determined the Drydon scrubber was not a true "or equal" item as it could not fit the project specifications.

CMT recommended to the City to reject all bids and to rebid the project after some design changes could be made to the HVAC and electrical components to allow for a standard size Purafil or Drydon scrubber to be used within the system. CMT also had discussions with the bidders to discuss potential changes that would lower the cost of the overall project. These conversations yielded that moving the scrubber outside to a more readily accessible location would further decrease the cost of the overall project even though it would add more mechanical work.

A new bid opening took place on June 7, 2024 at 10 AM at City Hall with three bids submitted.

Company	Bid Amount
Commercial Mechanical, Inc	\$ 409,000.00
PJ Hoerr	\$ 438,000.00
Leander Construction, Inc	\$ 438,900.00
Engineers Estimate	\$429,000.00

Fiscal Impact: The FY 24-25 budget includes \$465,000 in the Water Connection Fee Fund for this project.

Recommendation Summary: Staff recommends the approval of a contract award for the WTP1 Chlorination Upgrade Project for the amount of \$ 409,000.00 to Commercial Mechanical, Inc. out of Dunlap, IL

Action Requested: Approval of Contract Award.



June 12, 2024

Dennis Carr
City Engineer
City of Washington
301 Walnut Street
Washington, IL 61571

Dear Mr. Carr:

RE: WTP #1 – Chlorination Improvements Project
Bids Evaluation and Letter of Recommendation
CMT Project No. 23006343-00

The three bids received for the above referenced project were opened on Friday, June 7th, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. at City Hall. The apparent low bidder was Commercial Mechanical, Inc. of Dunlap, Illinois with a base bid amount of \$409,000.00. A copy of the Tabulation of Bids Received is enclosed. The bid is 5% lower than the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Construction Costs (\$429,000.00). All three bidders were within 7% of each other. It is our opinion that the city received competitive bids for the project.

CMT has completed a review of Commercial Mechanical, Inc. (CMI) references and completed projects and we see no reason to object to the award of the project. Therefore, we recommend the city award the WTP #1 – Chlorination Improvements Project to CMI for the bid amount of \$409,000.00. CMI submitted the necessary documentation required by the Contract Documents. Copies of the bid forms received from the bidders are being forwarded to City under a separate transmittal. Please note that the bid bond for P.J. Hoerr will be retained until an executed agreement with CMI is completed. The bid bonds of all other bidders will be returned.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue to assist you with this project. If you have any questions about the information above, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
CRAWFORD, MURPHY & TILLY, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott L. Desplinter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Scott Desplinter
Peoria/Moline Water Resources Group Manager

Enclosures

PROJECT: <u>CITY OF WASHINGTON, IL</u> <u>WTP #1 – CHLORINATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT</u>	JOB NO. <u>22004741-00</u> DATE OF LETTING: <u>June 7, 2024</u> TIME OF LETTING: <u>10:00 A.M.</u>
NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID
Engineer’s Opinion of Probable Construction Costs	\$429,000.00
Commercial Mechanical, Inc.	\$409,000.00
Leander Construction, Inc.	\$438,900.00
P.J. Hoerr	\$438,000.00