



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Council Session

Item G-8

#2017-197 - Approving Bid Award - Line Valve Operators for the Water Shop

Staff Contact: Tim Luchsinger, Stacy Nonhof

Council Agenda Memo

From: Timothy G. Luchsinger, Utilities Director
Stacy Nonhof, Assistant City Attorney

Meeting Date: July 11, 2017

Subject: Line Valve Operators

Presenter(s): Timothy G. Luchsinger, Utilities Director

Background

The City of Grand Island's water distribution system is made up of over 7,000 line valves used to isolate and direct water flow in the water distribution system. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) recommends that line valves be operated once a year. It takes anywhere from 8.5 to 60 full turns to operate line valves. Currently, the Water Shop uses "tee" handled manual operators for most valves, and handheld hydraulic operators for some harder operating valves. The current hydraulic operators have dial gauges to monitor the amount of torque used to operate the valves, and must be continually monitored by the operator to determine when to reverse the rotation. The existing hydraulic operators are heavy machines and must be lifted out of the truck and held down by personnel to use. Several personnel have been injured in the past by operating line valve operators.

A new style of hydraulic operator is now available that is mounted on a swing arm, mounted to the truck and does not need to be lifted. The hydraulic operator is computer controlled to monitor how much torque is applied to the valves. If the torque limit is met, the machine automatically reverses until the valve is fully operated.

Many of the line valves are located under the streets. To operate, personnel must stand in the street while running the valves. With the new style of hydraulic operator, personnel can stand off to the side to operate the line valves.

Discussion

Specifications were developed by the engineering staff to purchase four valve operators for each of the Water Shop trucks that currently have hydraulic operators and were advertised and issued for bid in accordance with the City Purchasing Code.

Bids were publicly opened on June 29, 2017. Additional options and new hydraulic units were included in the only bid not requested in the specification. Utilizing the existing hydraulic pump units and removing the GPS locators from the bid, an adjustment was made. The engineer's estimate for this project was \$100,000.00.

Bidder	Base Bid Price	Adjustments	Total Bid Price
E. H. Wachs Harvard, Illinois	\$145,541.40	\$(50,696.60)	\$94,844.80

The bid was reviewed by plant engineering staff for compliance with the City's detailed specifications. Discussions were held with E.H. Wachs to remove the hydraulic pumps and GPS locators to be compliant with the bid specification. The bid is otherwise compliant with the specifications and used as the only compliant bidder.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that Council award the Contract for the Line Valve Operators to E.H. Wachs of Harvard, Illinois, as the low responsive bidder, with the bid in the amount of \$94,844.80.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the bid in the amount of \$94,844.80 from E.H. Wachs of Harvard, Illinois, for the Line Valve Operators.



Stacy Nonhof, Purchasing Agent

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Better Tomorrow, Today*

BID OPENING

BID OPENING DATE: June 29, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
FOR: Line Valve Operators
DEPARTMENT: Utilities
ESTIMATE: \$100,000
FUND/ACCOUNT: 525
PUBLICATION DATE: June 13, 2017
NO. POTENTIAL BIDDERS: 3

SUMMARY

Bidder: E.H. Wachs
Lincolnshire, IL
Bid Security: Travelers Casualty & Surety Co.
Exceptions: Noted

Bid Price:
Material: \$136,020.00
Labor: ----
Sales Tax: \$ 9,521.40
Total Bid: \$145,541.40

cc: Tim Luchsinger, Utilities Director
Marlan Ferguson, City Administrator
Stacy Nonhof, Purchasing Agent
Karen Nagel, Utilities Secretary

Pat Gericke, Utilities Admin. Assist.
Renae Griffiths, Finance Director
Lynn Mayhew, Assist. Utilities Director

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RESOLUTION 2017-197

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island invited sealed bids for Line Valve Operators, according to plans and specifications on file with the Utilities Department; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2017, bids were received, opened and reviewed; and

WHEREAS, E.H. Wachs of Harvard, Illinois, submitted a bid in accordance with the terms of the advertisement of bids and plans and specifications and all other statutory requirements contained therein, such bid being in the amount of \$94,844.80; and

WHEREAS, the bid of E.H. Wachs is less than the estimate for Line Valve Operators.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the bid from E.H. Wachs, in the amount of \$94,844.80, for Line Valve Operators, is hereby approved as the lowest responsible bid.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, July 11, 2017.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	▣ _____
July 7, 2017	▣ City Attorney