



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Council Session

Item G-5

#2017-269 - Approving Purchase of Electrical Circuit Breakers

Staff Contact: Tim Luchsinger, Stacy Nonhof

Council Agenda Memo

From: Tim Luchsinger, Utilities Director
Stacy Nonhof, Assistant City Attorney

Meeting: October 10, 2017

Subject: Electrical Circuit Breakers, Contract #17-PCC-01

Presenter(s): Tim Luchsinger, Utilities Director

Background

The Grand Island electric system utilizes several 13,800 volt substations at various locations around the City. These substations contain, among other components, distribution electrical circuit breakers that interrupt power to different areas of the City when trouble on that circuit occurs. Additionally, substations have bus circuit breakers that interrupt power to a larger area of the City in the event the distribution circuit breaker fails.

As the breakers age, replacement components become difficult or impossible to find. In addition, technical advances in breaker design make it more economical to replace old and worn out breakers with new ones. Several breakers have reached an age that warrants replacement.

Discussion

The request was advertised in accordance with City procurement requirements. Specifications were sent to seven regional distributors. Bids were publicly opened at 2:00 pm on September 19, 2017. Listed below is a tabulation of the bids received:

Bids Received for four (4) 15.5 kV Bus Circuit Breakers

Bidder	Exceptions	Bid Price
Siemens Industry, Inc. Wendell, NC	Noted	\$ 87,457.52
Wesco Distribution, Inc. Sioux City, IA	Noted	\$139,172.76

Bids Received for two (2) 15.5 kV Distribution Circuit Breakers

Bidder	Exceptions	Bid Price
Siemens Industry, Inc. Wendell, NC	Noted	\$31,098.48
Wesco Distribution, Inc. Sioux City, IA	Noted	\$39,491.56

Note: All prices have been adjusted to include sales tax.

Both bids were evaluated by City personnel for conformance to the specifications. The lowest bid for bus circuit breakers from Siemens Industry, Inc., contained several exceptions. One notable exception is the type of operating mechanism provided. The specifications called for an electromagnetic operator instead of the traditional spring charge mechanism. Electromagnetic operators have been available for several years and offer a significant reduction in required maintenance due to very few moving parts. The traditional spring charge mechanisms are very complex mechanical machines that have many moving parts and require very precise maintenance to keep them working properly. In addition, the bus breaker specification called for higher voltage bushings with wider spacing to reduce the chances of outages due to birds. Siemens took exception to that requirement as well. The bid from Siemens was considered non-compliant. The bus breaker bid from Wesco Distribution, Inc., included some minor but acceptable exceptions.

Both bids for distribution circuit breakers contained minor exceptions. None were disqualifying. Both bids were under the engineer's estimate of \$200,000.00.

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 a future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the purchase of four (4) 15.5 kV bus circuit breakers from Wesco Distribution, Inc., for \$139,172.76 and two (2) 15.5 kV distribution circuit breakers from Siemens Industry, Inc., for \$31,098.48.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the purchase of four (4) 15.5 kV bus circuit breakers from Wesco Distribution, Inc., for \$139,172.76 and two (2) 15.5 kV distribution circuit breakers from Siemens Industry, Inc., for \$31,098.48.



Stacy Nonhof, Purchasing Agent

*Working Together for a
Better Tomorrow, Today*

BID OPENING

BID OPENING DATE: September 19, 2017 2:00 p.m.
FOR: Electrical Circuit Breakers
DEPARTMENT: Utilities
ESTIMATE: \$200,000.00
FUND/ACCOUNT: 520
PUBLICATION DATE: August 30, 2017
NO. POTENTIAL BIDDERS: 7

SUMMARY

Bidder:	<u>Wesco Distribution INC</u>	<u>Siemens</u>
	Sioux City, IA	Wendell, NC
Bid Security:	Liberty Mutual	Federal Insurance
Exceptions:	None	None
Bid Price:		
Bus Breakers:	\$130,068.00	\$ 81,736.00
Feeder Breakers:	\$ 36,908.00	\$ 29,064.00
Sales Tax:	<u>\$ 11,688.32</u>	<u>\$ 7,756.00</u>
Total Bid:	\$178,664.32	\$118,556.00

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

Pat Gericke, Utilities Admin Assist.
Renae Griffiths, Finance Director
Travis Burdett, Assist. Utilities Director

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RESOLUTION 2017-269

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island invited quotes for Electrical Circuit Breakers, according to plans and specifications on file with the Utilities Department; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2017, quotes were received, opened and reviewed; and

WHEREAS, Wesco Distribution, Inc., of Sioux City, Iowa, submitted a quote for four 15.5 kV bus circuit breakers in the amount of \$139,172.76; and

WHEREAS, Siemens Industry, Inc., of Wendell, North Carolina, submitted a quote for two (1) 15.5 kV distribution circuit breakers in the amount of \$31,098.48; and

WHEREAS, the quotes from Wesco Distribution, Inc., and Siemens Industry, Inc., were less than the engineer's estimate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the purchase of four (4) 15.5 kV bus circuit breakers from Wesco Distribution, Inc., for \$139,172.76 and two (2) 15.5 kV distribution circuit breakers from Siemens Industry, Inc., for \$31,098.48, is hereby approved.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, October 10, 2017.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
December 14, 2017	☐ City Attorney