



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Council Session

## Item G-10

**#2014-173 - Approving Bid Award - Communication Cards for Electric Substations**

Staff Contact: Tim Luchsinger, Stacy Nonhof

# Council Agenda Memo

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

**Meeting:** June 24, 2014

**Subject:** Substation Communication Cards

**Item #'s:** G-10

**Presenter(s):** Tim Luchsinger, Utilities Director

## Background

The Utilities Department utilizes a fiber optic communications loop to provide necessary communications with the electrical substations around the City. Currently, communications is accomplished via two systems that contain fifteen year old equipment that has become obsolete. With the addition of Substation J to the south of the City, a need for an expansion of that system exists. Since the existing equipment is obsolete, a system replacement or upgrade is required.

Many factors were considered when determining the optimum system. These factors included new protective relay communications requirements, interconnections with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), availability of spare parts, system simplicity and technical support.

After studying these factors, it was determined that it was best to upgrade one of the systems and allow it to provide all communications and eliminate the other system. This provides the needed communications and simplifies the system. This particular system has had very good technical support since it was originally installed.

## Discussion

The following bids were received by the City on June 10, 2014 for the needed communication cards. The engineer's estimate for this material was \$160,000.00.

Bidder	Bid Price	Exceptions
RFL Electronics, Inc., Booton Township, NJ	\$149,975.48	None
Arjay Automation, Inc., Minneapolis, MN	\$151,128.94	None

## **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council that 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 bid for the Substation Communication Cards to the low bidder, RFL Electronics of Booton Township, New Jersey, in the amount of \$149,975.48.

## **Sample Motion**

Move to approve the bid for the Substation Communication Cards to the low bidder, RFL Electronics of Booton Township, New Jersey, in the amount of \$149,975.48.



Stacy Nonhof, Purchasing Agent

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Better Tomorrow, Today*

**BID OPENING**

**BID OPENING DATE:** June 10, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.  
**FOR:** Substation Communication Cards  
**DEPARTMENT:** Utilities  
**ESTIMATE:** \$160,000  
**FUND/ACCOUNT:** 520  
**PUBLICATION DATE:** May 21, 2014  
**NO. POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** 2

**SUMMARY**

<b>Bidder:</b>	<u>Arjay Automation, Inc.</u> Minneapolis, MN	<u>RFL Electronics, Inc.</u> Boonton Township, NJ
<b>Bid Security:</b>	Cashier's Check	Arch Insurance Co.
<b>Exceptions:</b>	None	None
<b>Bid Price:</b>		
<b>Total Base Bid:</b>	\$141,242.00	\$140,164.00
<b>Sales Tax:</b>	\$ 9,886.94	\$ 9,811.48
<b>Total Bid:</b>	\$151,128.94	\$149,975.48

cc: Travis Burdett, Assistant Utilities Director  
Tim Luchinger, Director  
Mary Lou Brown, City Administrator

**P1741**

RESOLUTION 2014-173

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island invited sealed bids for Substation Communication Cards, according to plans and specifications on file with the Utilities Department; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2014, bids were received, opened and reviewed; and

WHEREAS, RFL Electronics, Inc., of Booton Township, New Jersey, 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 \$149,975.48; and

WHEREAS, the bid of RFL Electronics, Inc., is less than the estimate for the Substation Communication Cards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the bid of RFL Electronics, Inc., in the amount of \$149,975.48 for Substation Communication Cards, is hereby approved as the lowest responsible bid.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, June 24, 2014.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☒ _____
June 20, 2014	☒ City Attorney