



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Council Session

Item G12

#2007-139 - Approving Bid Award for Vehicle Exhaust Removal System

Staff Contact: Jim Rowell

Council Agenda Memo

From: Jim Rowell, Fire Chief

Meeting: June 12, 2007

Subject: Approving Bid Award for Vehicle Exhaust Removal System

Item #'s: G-12

Presenter(s): Jim Rowell, Fire Chief

Background

Requests for bids for a vehicle exhaust removal system for the new fire station located at 409 East Fonner Park Road was published on March 20, 2007 and had a closing date of March 29, 2007. Bid requests were sent to four potential bidders.

Discussion

Three bids were received and were within the cost estimate. Funds are available in the budget account number 40015025-90007.

In May 2006 City Council approved the pre-wiring for the exhaust system in Change Order #1. We are now bringing forth the bid for the installation of the remainder of the system which includes: hoses, controls, fans and ductwork.

One bidder, Clean Air Concepts of Cincinnati, Ohio submitted a bid for two different systems, one for the Magnegrip system for \$31,665.00 and the other for a Hazvent system for \$35,959.00. They submitted testing references for Magnegrip vs. Plymovent. However no results were available for the Hazvent nozzle vs. Plymovent. Regular adjustments and maintenance are not included in the warranty with either system. According to Clean Air Concepts warranty our department personnel are responsible for maintenance of the system.

Air Cleaning Tech, Inc. of Bonner Springs, KS submitted a bid of \$47,550.00. Their system called Plymovent, has been used since 2004 in Fire Stations 2, 3 and 4 and we have had little trouble and any adjustments were made promptly by Air Cleaning Tech. Comparing the systems:

Magnegrip:

Bid specification A-2 and N state that the system shall provide pneumatic connection to the vehicle exhaust pipe. This system uses a magnet to hold the exhaust hose to the truck instead of the pneumatic collar. This does not comply with the bid specifications. The magnet can drag down the side of the truck and mar the surface or scratch the paint.

The connection to hose from tailpipe is not the same as existing systems, which creates an incompatibility that would limit flexibility in truck assignments. In addition if the wrong truck is connected to this system it may not release properly and result in damage to the system, the truck or the building.

L. Lower Hose Assembly: shall support the pneumatic connection nozzle and chrome reducing elbow in a rigid fashion to allow operator to place hose connection nozzle onto the tailpipe without bending over. (Without this rigid section the operator is exposed to vehicle exhaust and back injury) Magnegrip does not meet this specification.

M. Safety Disconnect Coupling: to be made of two spun aluminum collars connected by reusable segmented coupling band. Magnegrip does not offer the safety disconnect. Bid document states no exceptions to this specification.

Hazvent:

No local references were available for Hazvent or Magnegrip; extensive checking of references was done by phone. Magnegrip was found to be satisfactory by most of the references, limited use of Hazvent made it difficult to compare the pneumatic application.

Specifications not met (Exceptions)

L. Lower Hose Assembly: shall support the pneumatic connection nozzle and chrome reducing elbow in a rigid fashion to allow operator to place hose connection nozzle onto the tailpipe without bending over. (Without this rigid section the operator is exposed to vehicle exhaust and back injury)

M. Safety Disconnect Coupling: to be made of two spun aluminum collars connected by reusable segmented coupling band. Hazvent uses galvanized steel coupling ends connected with hose clamp. The two ends connected with a rubber collar.

N. Collection Nozzle Assembly: The chrome reducing elbow is specified, Hazvent uses a cast aluminum elbow the weight of which makes it a safety issue when it is released by the tailpipe.

On site evaluation:

A tour of Station 14 in Lincoln, conducted on May 8, 2007 the findings were:

No Safety disconnect was used on the system. (If nozzle sticks it will not release the vehicle without damage to the vehicle or system).

The weight of the aluminum elbow had broken bricks by the door when the disconnect swung back in. The solution that Lincoln used was to wrap the elbow with padding.

The system installation was not designed specifically for the Station creating over length ductwork and duplicate fittings with no future use anticipated.

The sound from the exhaust fan on the outside was problematic (Tests conducted by Magnegrip found their fans were louder than Plymovent). Prior to our use of the Plymovent system at station 2 we had an exhaust system that created enough noise that the neighbors complained. We had to have the exterior discharge through a ductwork and redirect the air flow and reduce the noise.

Findings on a Fume Extraction Survey March 19, 2007 in an Enewspaper: Plymovent was listed best overall, best service and best quality. Magnegrip/Hazvent was not listed.

Three Plymovent systems have been in use by the GIFD since 2004. In Stations 2, 3 and 4. Installing Plymovent would insure compatible parts, service and operation.

Racine Wisconsin Fire Department has had experience with both Magnegrip and Plymovent. In a letter to Plymovent they expressed their displeasure with Magnegrip and their satisfaction with Plymovent. The mechanic for the Racine Fire Department was contacted and he confirmed the evaluation of the systems expressed in the letter.

While Plymovent is the highest bid, it meets the specifications provided in the bid document and the other two systems did not meet the specification. The items that do not meet the specifications create safety, noise and performance concerns that cannot be overlooked. While our employees are capable of performing routine maintenance and service, service and support should be available from the bidder. This would allow all four stations to have the same system and be compatible for parts, service and operation.

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 the Council approve the purchase of the Plymovent system from Clean Air Tech. Inc.

Sample Motion

Motion to approve the purchase of the Plymovent system.

Purchasing Division of Legal Department
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM



Dale M. Shotkoski, Assistant City Attorney

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Better Tomorrow, Today*

BID OPENING

BID OPENING DATE: March 29, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

FOR: Vehicle Exhaust Removal System

DEPARTMENT: Fire

ESTIMATE: \$50,000.00

FUND/ACCOUNT: 40015025-90007

PUBLICATION DATE: March 20, 2007

NO. POTENTIAL BIDDERS: 4

SUMMARY

Bidder:	<u>Air Cleaning Tech, Inc.</u> Bonner Springs, KS	<u>Clean Air Concepts</u> Cincinnati, OH
Exceptions:	None	None
Bid Price:	\$47,550.00	\$35,959.00

cc: Jim Rowell, Fire Chief
Curt Rohling, Operations Division Chief
Sherry Peters, Legal Secretary

Chris Hoffman, Public Safety Secretary
Dale Shotkoski, Purchasing Agent

P1156

RESOLUTION 2007-139

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island invited sealed bids for a Vehicle Exhaust Removal System, according to plans and specifications on file with the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, on March 29, 2007, bids were received, opened and reviewed; and

WHEREAS, Air Cleaning Tech, Inc., of Bonner Springs, Kansas, 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 \$47,550.00; and

WHEREAS, Air Cleaning Tech, Inc.'s bid is less than the estimate for such project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the bid of Air Cleaning Tech, Inc., of Bonner Springs, Kansas, in the amount of \$47,550.00 for a Vehicle Exhaust Removal System 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 12, 2007.

Margaret Hornady, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
June 8, 2007	☐ City Attorney