

September 3, 2014

To: Mayor Bemrich and City Council

From: David Fierke, City Manager

Subject: 2014 OHV Water Main Extension – Public Hearing to Approve Plans & Specifications, Form of Contract, Estimate of Costs and Award of Contract



ACTION: For vote Monday, September 8, 2014

Brief History

For the past several years, the Capital Improvement Plans have included funding for extending the water service area to the south and serve the OHV campground. The existing water main at 5th Ave South and South 42nd Street will be extended to the south to provide service to the OHV Park.

On January 27, 2014, Council approved the contract with MER Engineering for engineering services through the bid letting with additional services to be authorized at a later date. The project will expand the City's water service area to the OHV Park by installing almost two miles of 16" water main. The project will be completed by March 1st ahead of the OHV campground opening.

MER Engineering has prepared the plans and specifications for the 2014 OHV Water Main Extension project. On August 11, 2014 Council approved setting bid letting date to receive bids for the project on August 28, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. A public hearing was set to approve the plans and specifications, form of contract, and estimate of costs for September 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Analysis of Issue

A bid letting was held on August 28, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. the following responsive bids were received:

Contractor	Base Bid (DIP Water Main)	Bid Alternate (PVC Water Main)
Carstensen Contracting Inc.	\$1,380,570.00	\$1,099,416.50
Keller Excavating Inc.	\$1,345,038.00	\$1,106,068.00
H & W Contracting LLC.	\$1,368,539.00	\$1,165,385.00
Holland Contracting Corp.	\$1,400,665.00	\$1,208,588.00
Nels Pederson Co., Inc	\$1,577,167.00	\$1,276,526.00
J & K	\$1,706,752.00	\$1,382,275.50

The Bid Alternate changed the water main pipe material from Ductile Iron Pipe Class 52 to C900 PVC.

Budget Impact

The project will be funded from the Water Utility Fund. The engineer's estimate for this project is \$1,563,632.50 (Base Bid)/\$1,189,697.50 (Bid Alternate).

Strategic Plan Impact

Policy D.4.2: Advanced planning for all infrastructure facilities shall be supported and routinely updated. Facilities benefited by advanced planning shall include, at minimum, schools, health care, residential areas, roads, water, sewer, storm water management, parks, recreation, and greenways.

Policy D.4.1: Recognizing that infrastructure has a powerful influence on growth and development, the availability of infrastructure (along with other factors) should determine where development will occur in the city, rather than the other way around.

Impact on Existing Plans

None.

Committee Review / Recommendation

None.

Staff Conclusions / Recommendations

It is our recommendation to approve the plans and specifications, form of contract and estimate of costs for this project. In addition staff recommends awarding a contract to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. and selects the Bid Alternate in the amount of \$1,099,416.50.

Alternatives

None recommended.

Implementation and Accountability

The Engineering Department and MER Engineering will be responsible for overseeing this project.

Signed



Tony Trotter, P.E.
Project Engineer

Approved



David Fierke
City Manager

MER ENGINEERING, INC.

September 2, 2014

City of Fort Dodge
Engineering Dept.
Tony Trotter
819 1st Ave South
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

RE: 2014 OHV Water Main Extensions City of Fort Dodge
MER #5107

A bid letting was held on August 28th, 2014 for the 2014 OHV Water Main Extension project for the City of Fort Dodge and the low bidder is Carstensen Contracting from Pipestone, MN. Not being familiar with Carstensen Contracting we called the references they supplied (enclosed).

The first reference called was Bolton and Menk Engineering and spoke with Wesley Brown at 507-381-0380. I asked Wesley how they were to work with and he explained that he did not have a good overall experience with the company. The following was his response: 1 to 10 scale (1 being the worst) Overall experience (2)

- Big staff turnover-3 to 4 foreman's on project.
- Surface replace was poor upon completion.
- A lot of challenges.
- Missed completion deadline.
- Crews were very inefficient.
- City of Laurens not happy.
- Most of the workers had communication problems-did not speak English.
- Called city of Laurens and they were not happy, Spoke with Julian Johnson and they did 8 blocks of pavement and it is like driving on a washboard. Equipment very old and finished job just enough to pass SUDAS minimum. Said no one in Iowa will re-hire because of poor performance according to talk at Iowa Municipality meetings.

The second reference called was City of Ocheyedan and Chrissi referred us to the Engineering firm S.E.H who actually worked with the contractor for the City. I spoke with Steve Robinson (project Engineer) at S.E.H at (507)-360-5113

- He said he worked very well with them and they performed very well.
- He would highly recommend them.
- He has worked with them on several projects and has had a good experience with them.

The third reference was Fox Dreschler and Brickley Engineering out of Oklahoma and I spoke with Gerd Brickley (project engineer) at (580)-482-6583. -They had completed a water main project and did a really good job.

- They worked 6 days a week and never complained.
- They were equipped with IPADS and GPS.
- Said they strained the engineer firm's resources because they worked so quickly and efficiently that they had to have someone there on the job constantly inspecting.
- They finished the 90 day job in 32 days.
- He would highly recommend them.

MER ENGINEERING, INC.

Fourth reference called was the City of Rock Rapids street project. I spoke with Jordan Kordahl (City Clerk) at (712)-472-2553

-He did not work directly with them but looking in the files it seemed they did a good job so he would recommend them.

Fifth reference called was Bartlett and West of Bismarck ND and I spoke with Doug Mund (project engineer) at (701)-258-1110.

-They had completed a lining and grading project and did very well on the project.

-They bring up crews from Texas and other places.

-A lot of Mexicans and Guatemalans but the supervisor spoke English.

-They had problems with Boring contractors they recommended and had to reject until they found one the engineer approved.

-There were no change orders.

-Had to stay on them to keep things clean.

-Not the worst contractor but not the best.

-They work nonstop so they need a lot of observation/inspection on a regular basis.

Sixth reference called was the City of Superior and I spoke with Everett Houge (ex-mayor).

-Did a very good job.

-Built a new waste water collection system and job was completed on time.

-Would recommend them.

I called Carstensen Contracting, Inc. and talked with Steve Olson, the estimator on the OHV project. He assured me that he has all insurance, including the extra insurance for the Railroad crossing, included in their bid. I also asked if there were any questions or issues that are not clear and he again assured me that there are none.

Recommendation- Based on the low bid and assurance that they will complete the project on time I recommend the award of a contract for the construction of the 2014 OHV Water Main Extension project using the alternate (C 905 and 900 PVC) to Carstensen Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,099,416.50.

If you have questions or concerns please feel free to call.

Sincerely,



Eldon Rossow
EFR/rl

Enclosures: 8 pages -Carstensen
2 pages-Bid Tab

RESOLUTION NO. _____

APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT, AND ESTIMATE OF COST FOR 2014 OHV WATER MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT, FOR THE CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA.

WHEREAS, proposed Plans and Specifications, proposed form of Contract, and estimate of cost for 2014 OHV Water Main Extension have heretofore been prepared by MER Engineering INC and filed with the City Clerk on the 11th day of August, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Notice of Hearing on the said proposed Plans and Specifications, proposed form of Contract, and estimate of cost were duly published in the form and manner required by law; and

WHEREAS, no petition or objections to the said Plans and Specifications, proposed form of Contract, and estimate of cost have been filed or made by any interested party;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Fort Dodge, Iowa, as follows:

Section I. That the Plans and Specifications, form of Contract, and estimate of cost referred to in the preamble hereof be and the same are hereby approved.

Section II. That all Resolutions or Orders or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 20____.

AYE: _____

NAY: _____

OTHER: _____

Matt Bemrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeff Nemmers, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AWARDING CONTRACT FOR THE 2014 OHV WATER MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA.

WHEREAS, pursuant to notice duly published in the manner and form prescribed by Resolution of the Council, and as required by law, bids and proposals were received by this Council for the 2014 OHV Water Main Extension Project (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, all of the said bids and proposals have been carefully considered, and it is necessary and advisable that provision be made for the award of the Contract for the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Fort Dodge, Iowa, as follows:

Section I. The bid for the Project submitted by the following Contractor is fully responsive to the Plans and Specifications for the Project, heretofore approved by the Council, and is the lowest responsible bid received:

<u>Name and Address of Contractor</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
<u>Carstensen Contracting, Inc</u> <u>P.O. Box 754, Pipestone, MN 56164</u>	<u>\$1,099,416.50</u>

Section II. The Contract for the Project be and the same is hereby awarded to such Contractor at the total estimated cost set out above, the final settlement to be made on the basis of the unit prices therein set out and the actual final quantities of each class of materials furnished, the said Contract to be subject to the terms of the aforementioned Resolution, the Notice of Hearing and Letting, the Plans and Specifications, and the terms of the bidder's written Proposal.

Section III. The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute a written Contract with said Contractor for the Project, but only after receipt of Performance and/or Payment Bonds from the Contractor and receipt of a written determination from the City Attorney that such Surety Bonds are satisfactory. No additional City Council action shall be required to approve the executed Contract or Surety Bonds, unless requested by the City Attorney.

Section IV. The amount of the Contractor's Performance and/or Payment Bonds is hereby fixed and determined to be 100% of the amount of the Contract.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 20____.

AYE: _____

NAY: _____

OTHER: _____

Matt Bemrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeff Nemmers, City Clerk