

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**03-513**

**AGENDA:**

OCTOBER 20, 2003

**SUBJECT:**

WASTEWATER  
RECLAMATION  
FACILITY W3  
WATER SYSTEM  
IMPROVEMENTS

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION**  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.  
CITY ENGINEER

WILLIAM STOWE  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR

**ITEM** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**SYNOPSIS —**

On October 7, 2003, bids were received by the City of Des Moines for the Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) W3 Water System Improvements. Only one bid was received which was from Van Hauen & Associates, Inc. (Mark Van Hauen, Vice President/CEO, 13185 Pineview Drive, Clive, Iowa, 50325) in the amount of \$425,000. This report explains City staff's recommendation to accept the bid.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

The City Engineer's construction estimate is \$387,400. Sufficient funding for this project is available in the WRF Small Capital Projects in the current Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page WRA-21, Fund EN267, Organization PWK990000, Project WRA 083, Index Code 398271, Activity ID 04-2004-002.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

**Award of this construction contract to Van Hauen & Associates, Inc.**

**BACKGROUND —**

The WRF W3 Water System Improvements includes construction of piping improvements to the W3 water system, which is a non-potable water system within the WRF. This system uses process wastewater captured just before release to the Des Moines River, instead of purchasing potable water (drinking water from the Des Moines Water Works) for backwashing filters, as well as wash-down and clean-up water at the grit handling, sludge processing, power generation, and sludge digester facilities. The use of this W3 non-potable water saves operations costs.

The following is City staff's response explaining possible reasons for receiving only one bid and for award of the construction contract:

Staff contacted two other contractors who had taken out plan sets, and they both stated that the reason they did not submit a bid was because of scheduling conflicts and current workload. The City's design consultant and Engineering Department staff have reviewed the bid, and recommend that the project be awarded to Van Hauen & Associates, Inc. due to the urgency of this project to complete the improvements before spring. Rebidding the project would cause delays in improving the grit removal process at the WRF. It is important to the WRF to have this project completed prior to the heavy spring rains in order to improve the grit removal process at the WRF.

	<p>The design consultant and City staff recommend acceptance of Van Hauen &amp; Associates, Inc.'s current bid of \$425,000.</p>
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