



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

October 8, 2007

Agenda Item No. 54
Roll Call No. 07-
Communication No. 07-609
Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.
City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers Safety Cabling: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Cramer and Associates, Inc., Robert Cramer, President/CAO, 5600 Brookside Drive, Grimes, IA, 50111, \$93,130.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers Safety Cabling and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This project will add warning signs upstream of both the Center Street and Scott Street Dams to warn river users of the dangers of the dams and the potential hazards of going over the dams and being caught in the "boil" below both of the dams that can capture and kill people. It will also include signage to indicate safe locations to exit the river upstream of the dams. The project will also add a cable upstream of the Scott Street Dam. This cable will be similar to the cable upstream of the Center Street Dam and can be used as a last measure to keep from going over the dam.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$93,130 Construction Contract (\$121,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: 2007-2008 CIP, Page Park-22, Recreation Trails, PKS045, Being: Essential Corporate Purpose G.O. Bond proceeds (2007B - Hearing A). Funding for the improvement is being taken out of the Recreation Trails CIP Budget because safety cabling is considered a safety precaution related to the recreational use of the river as part of City's "Water Trail" system. Both safety cabling and recreation trails are deemed to be "Essential Corporate Purpose" projects.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On September 10, 2007, under Roll Call No. 07-1698, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers Safety Cabling. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, a public hearing must be held to approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers Safety Cabling, 11-2007-017. The improvement includes supplying and installing dam safety signage at the Scott Avenue and Center Street Dams, repair of the safety cable at the Center Street Dam, and supply and install a new safety cable at the Scott Avenue Dam in accordance with the contract documents, including Plan Files 479-131/135 on the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers at the Scott Avenue and Center Street Dams, Des Moines, Iowa.

Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:

Cramer and Associates, Inc., Grimes, IA

The bids were received and opened at a public meeting presided over by the City Engineer in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive, Des Moines, Iowa at 11:00 a.m. on September 25, 2007. Only one bid was received from Cramer and Associates, Inc., which was 23% less than the Engineer's estimate. Staff contacted several of the eight companies that had obtained bidding documents as prime bidders, and were told that the project did not fit into the contractor's current work schedule, they did not have crews available to do the work, the project did not fit their work expertise or experience, or they were bidding other work and could not prepare a bid.

The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by Cramer and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$93,130, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: September 10, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1698

Action: Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers Safety Cabling – Receiving of bids, (9-25-07), and Setting date of hearing, (10-8-07). (Construction Estimate - \$121,000). (Council Communication No. 07-557). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.