

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: July 26, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 39 Roll Call No. <u>10-1231</u> Communication No. <u>10-450</u> Submitted by: Merrill R. Stanley, Deputy City Manager

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving purchase of City fleet vehicles.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval to purchase three vehicles for the City fleet in accordance with specifications of Bid No. V10-092 to the low responsive bidder, Ed Stivers Ford, Don Politte, General Manager, 1450 E. Highway 6, Waukee, Iowa 50263, in the amount of \$251,474. The vehicles to be purchased include two aerial lift trucks to be used by the Traffic and Transportation Division and one cargo van for use by the Fire Department.

This item is continued from the July 12, 2010 Council meeting, after being referred to the City Manager for additional clarification for the recommended award of bid item one: two aerial lift trucks. Council identified a potential safety concern in the location of the specified auxiliary controls system for the unit. Specifications call for auxiliary controls to be located in the service body of the truck in the front driver side compartment. Auxiliary controls provide increased employee safety by allowing the operator to enter the aerial bucket from ground level and avoid climbing into the cargo area of the unit. Without auxiliary controls, operators must climb into the cargo area of the service body to access bucket controls or enter the bucket and operate the boom with bucket controls. Staff has reviewed the safety concerns expressed by Council with the supplier of the aerial lift portion of the truck, Hawkeye Truck Equipment, Tom Steinkamp, Owner/President. Hawkeye Truck Equipment proposes to provide a wireless remote hand held controller in lieu of fixed location electric switches at the submitted bid cost. In this manner the operator can operate the aerial lift boom with bucket from the safest possible location at each work site.

In an added step, the design specifications of the proposed aerial lift trucks were reviewed by the City's Safety Consultant, who approved the safety features of the truck selected. This step will be added to Fleet's normal review process for any non-standard vehicle or equipment purchase.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$251,474

Funding Source: FY2011 Operating Budget, IS201, CMO010407, Equipment Replacement Fund, page 55.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Bids were solicited to replace two vehicles in the City fleet that meet or exceed established replacement criteria and the addition of one vehicle to the City’s fleet, approved by the Fleet Oversight Committee. Eighteen bids were mailed and four responses were received.

Bid item 1:

Two 19,500 GVW work trucks with aerial lift and service body for use by the Engineering Department, Traffic and Transportation Division. One unit to replace an existing vehicle and one addition to the fleet to meet the service needs of the Traffic and Transportation Division field operations, due to expanded service in recently annexed areas. During specification development, staff identified a safety hazard with the need for the operator to board the work/cargo area of the unit to enter the lift bucket. See Photo 1. This exposes the employee to potential injury from a slip or fall. Previous bidders of aerial lift trucks indicated they could provide auxiliary controls at ground level so the bucket can be lowered and accessed from ground level, thus eliminating the need to climb in or board the work or cargo area to enter the bucket.



Photo 1



Photo 2

The use of aerial lift trucks in the Traffic and Transportation Division requires the units to be parked in various configurations on one way and two way multiple lane streets and unimproved roads. Therefore there is not a usual “street side” or “curbside” designation when a work zone is established in center lanes, or when the need arises to park facing traffic to protect employees working on equipment at the work area on the rear of the unit. After additional discussion with Hawkeye Truck Equipment, they propose the use of a wireless hand held controller instead of mounting switches in any compartment of the service body. See Photo 2. The operator can lower the bucket for ground level access from the safest location within the work zone. The Armlift brand model proposed by Hawkeye truck does not require a boom rest tie down device, therefore eliminating the need for the operator to access the cargo area of the unit to release the boom for use. See Photo 3.



Photo 3 (demonstration unit, but depicts truck mounted boom rest)

The low bid from Stivers Ford with an Altec brand aerial lift was not compliant with the requirement of an auxiliary aerial lift control system within the service body at ground level. In communication to the City Manager, Altec had subsequently proposed installing auxiliary controls in the right side service body compartment for an additional \$4,900 per unit to become compliant with the bid specifications. Purchasing policy prohibits bidders from altering their bids after bids are opened. The second lowest bid from Stivers Ford with a Duralift brand aerial lift was compliant with the specification of auxiliary electronic controls installed in the left side service body compartment but was not compliant with the requirement for a continuous rotation boom on the aerial lift. The third lowest bid from Charles Gabus Ford with a Duralift brand aerial lift was also noncompliant with the requirement for a continuous boom rotation on the aerial lift. The only bid compliant with all bid specifications was the third alternate bid from Stivers Ford with an Armlift brand of aerial lift.

The vehicles recommended for purchase cost \$114,303 each. This is \$19,323 higher than the low non-compliant bid. The unit being replaced has been in service for 13 years, and the replacement unit and additional unit have a projected life cycle of 12 years. The additional purchase cost due to the requirement of an auxiliary control system to minimize a recognized safety hazard and increase employee safety results in approximately \$1,600 per year of life cycle for these particular units.

Bid item 2:

One cargo van for use by the Fire Department arson investigation. This is a replacement unit for an existing vehicle in the Fire Department that exceeds the established replacement criteria. One bid was received from Stivers Ford for a 2011 model year van meeting the bid specifications, at a cost of \$22,868.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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