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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council<br/>Communication</b><br/>Office of the City Manager</p> | <b>Date:</b> February 28, 2011  |
|  | <b>Agenda Item No.</b> 51<br><b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>11-0338</u><br><b>Communication No.</b> <u>11-118</u><br><b>Submitted by:</b> Allen McKinley,<br>Deputy City Manager |

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving purchase of three catch basin cleaners for use by the Sewers Division of the Public Works Department.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval to purchase three catch basin cleaners for use by the Sewers Division of the Public Works Department, in accordance with specifications of Bid Number V11-051, to the low responsive bidder, O’Halloran International Incorporated, James O’Halloran Jr., President, 3311 Adventureland Drive W, Altoona, IA 50009, in the amount of \$1,147,482.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$1,147,482

Funding Source: FY 2010-11 Operating Budget, Sewer Maintenance, Sanitary Sewer Fund, EN101, PWK071000, page 262.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Three existing catch basin cleaners were identified that meet or exceed established replacement criteria and were approved for replacement by the Fleet Oversight Committee. Catch basin cleaner trucks have a combination of vacuum and high pressure water (jetting) capabilities and are used daily in the cleaning and maintenance of sewers. The existing fleet of seven trucks has two different brands of catch basin bodies. Four units are equipped with Vac-con brand and three have Vactor brand bodies. Fleet and Sewers data was analyzed for differences in repair costs and operational downtime. Vactor brand body trucks have lower repair costs and less downtime than the current Vac-con brand units. Specifications were developed for replacement trucks based on operational safety, reduced repair costs, lower downtime and increased productivity of the Vactor brand units in the current fleet. Specifications also included current technologies for best management practices to increase efficiencies and operational safety.

Bid process and timeline; bids were solicited according to the following schedule:

- December 20, 2010: Bid invitations were mailed to six chassis dealers and seven equipment body suppliers. Bidders must be an Iowa licensed dealer to sell new cab and chassis per Iowa Code Section 322.3(1); therefore equipment body suppliers provided bids to responding chassis dealers.

- December 20, 2010 – January 4, 2011: Time period for potential bidders to make inquiries regarding the bid and bid specifications. The Administrative Information in the Notice of Bid instructs anyone who receives a bid notice to ask questions or make inquiries concerning the bid up to ten days prior to the bid opening. Purchasing accepts questions at any point in the bid process and responds accordingly, depending on the question. No inquiries, written or emailed, were received during this time period.
- January 14, 2011: Due date of bids; public bid opening.
- February 9, 2011: Release of roll call designating low compliant bid.
- February 14, 2011: Recommended award went before Council for the first time.

Three compliant bids were received from three bidders. O'Halloran International submitted the lowest compliant bid of \$379,014 per truck. Disc brakes were requested as an option, if available, and quoted at a cost of \$3,480 per truck. Disc brakes provide increased stopping ability, and result in lower repair and maintenance costs as compared to standard drum brakes. The disc brake option is recommended, resulting in a total cost per truck of \$382,494.

O'Halloran International submitted two additional lower cost non-compliant bids with Vac-con brand alternate equipment supplied by Mid-Iowa Solid Waste Equipment Company and Camel brand alternate equipment supplied by Elliot Equipment Company. After Council action to refer to the City Manager for review of specifications and recommendation process, staff met with representatives of Mid Iowa Solid Waste and Elliot Equipment individually to obtain additional clarifications on their non-compliant responses.

Further evaluation of the two additional O'Halloran bids with alternate equipment resulted in identifying non-compliant responses in critical components of:

- Debris tank capacity- (10.8 cubic yards instead of the specified 12.0 cubic yards, similar liquid capacities specifications in future bids will use the alternate unit of measure-usable liquid volume);
- Water tank composition, (polyethylene instead of specified aluminum);
- Vacuum pump drive method, (hydraulic versus direct mechanical drive);
- Vacuum boom extension, (provides the ability to lower boom an additional 5 feet for cleaning operations)
- Hose reel controls and operation, (single control instead of required dual control, 180 degrees of rotation instead of required 270 degrees);
- Debris body dumping height, (48 inches instead of required 60 inches)

The specification for debris body dumping height is the most significant non-compliance item in the two alternate O'Halloran bids. Specifications called for a 60 inch dumping height. This height is essential to allow the debris tank to be emptied into stationary containers to reduce trips to the Wastewater Reclamation Authority. Reduced trips result in increased efficiency in cleaning catch basins at pumping

stations. Therefore, staff recommends purchase of the three catch basin cleaners from the low compliant O'Halloran International bid.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: February 14, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-0239

Action: [O'Halloran](#) International Inc. (James O'Halloran, President) for three replacement catch basin cleaner trucks for use by the Public Works Department Sewers Division, \$1,147,482 subject to financing through lease-purchase agreement. (Six bids mailed, five bids received). ([Council Communication No. 11-060](#)) **Moved by Hensley to refer to the City Manager for review and recommendation regarding the specifications and process used and to consider this item at the February 28<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Motion Carried 7-0.**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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