


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	19-332	Meeting:	August 5, 2019
	Agenda Item:	50D	Roll Call:	19-1239
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Annual purchase of anti-icing chemical for snow and ice control operations.

SYNOPSIS:

The Department of Public Works has joined with six (6) other public agencies in a combined bid for deicing chemicals for the 2019-2020 snow and ice control season. In 2019, 18 bid packages were mailed, and the City received seven (7) submitted bids. Smith Fertilizer and Grain (Max Smith, President, 1650 Quebec Street, Knoxville, IA 50138) was the low bidder for full tank delivery of calcium chloride, at a cost of \$0.80 per gallon and for a full tank delivery of Geomelt, at a cost of \$1.38 per gallon. Staff recommends approval to purchase up to 50,000 gallons of calcium chloride and 70,000 gallons of Geomelt over the course of the winter months for a total of \$136,600.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$136,600

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 Public Works Operating Budget, PW 240402, S360 Street Maintenance Fund

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Geomelt is a sugar beet-based agricultural product that is mixed with salt brine for anti-icing operations. Pure liquid salt brine can be used for anti-icing operations until the temperature reaches 20 degrees Fahrenheit. With the addition of Geomelt, the blended product can be applied for anti-icing until the pavement temperature reaches five (5) degrees Fahrenheit.
- Calcium chloride is delivered pre-mixed and used as a stand-alone product for pre-wetting the salt before it is applied to the street. This allows the product to stay in place on the pavement with less bouncing and scattering off the street surface.
- The Department of Public Works uses these chemicals during snow and ice control operations as anti-icing and de-icing agents for the safety of motorists.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 20, 2018

Roll Call Number: [18-1419](#)

Action: Bids from the following:

- (A) [Smith](#) Fertilizer and Grain (Max Smith, President) for joint purchases along with the Cities of West Des Moines, Waukee, Johnston, Windsor Heights and Dallas County for deicing chemicals to be used by the Public Works Department, estimated annual cost \$138,000. (16 potential bidders, five received). ([Council Communication No. 18-436](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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