THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

Subject: Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) Area 8 - Water Distribution Project. – Construction Services Contract Award

Staff Resource(s): Bill Hart, Water Resources Director; Chad Pierce, Engineering Services Manager; Mark Letterman, Project Manager II

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a construction agreement with TP Howard Plumbing, Inc for the Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) Area 8 - Water Distribution Project.

Background:

- The scope of work for this project includes the installation of approximately 250 LF of 12-inch, 700 LF of 8-inch, 21,000 LF of 6-inch ductile iron water line, related appurtenances and other miscellaneous water system components including service connections.
- The project is located in various neighborhoods and commercial corridors throughout the water service district.
- The project will mostly replace existing problematic water lines; which have been identified as a need through a prioritization and master planning process, due to age, pipe failures and future water capacity needs
- On October 21, 2025, the Water Resources Department (WRD) issued an advertisement for bids for the Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) Area 8 - Water Distribution Project.
- In response to the advertisement for bids, the WRD received four (4) bids on November 20, 2025. Companies responding were:
    1. Buckeye Bridge, LLC - Canton,NC - Non MWBE - Bid $9,396,412.10
    2. TeraFlex Group, LLC. - Waynesville, NC - Non MWBE - Bid $14,794,715.00
    3. Hyatt Pipeline, LLC.- Canton, NC - Non MWBE - Bid $8,956,938.75
    4. TP Howard's Plumbing Co, Inc. - Fairview, NC - Non MWBE - Bid $8,135,000.00
- Following an audit of the bids by City staff and the project engineers, CDM Smith; Thomas TP Howard's Plumbing Co. Inc. was selected as the lowest responsible, responsive bidder.
- The Water Resources Department requests authorization to contract with TP Howard's Plumbing Co, Inc. for the bid amount of $8,135,000.00 plus a 10% contingency in the amount of $813,500.00, for a total amount not to exceed $8,948,500.00 for a term through project completion.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Staff performed outreach to minority- and women-owned businesses through the solicitation processes which include posting on the State's Interactive Purchasing System and requiring prime contractors to reach out to Minority Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) service providers for subcontracted services.
- No MWBE firms submitted bids as the prime contractor.

Council Goal(s):

- A Financially Resilient City
- A Clean and Healthy Environment

Committee(s):

- Not applicable.

Pro(s):

- This project is aligned with the City's and the Water Resources Department's goal of continued investment and improvement of the City's water system through capital improvement projects, in order to provide safe and reliable service.

Con(s):

- None.

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for this contract was previously budgeted and is available in the Water Resources Capital Projects Fund.

Suggested Motion:

- Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a construction agreement with TP Howard's Plumbing Co, Inc for the bid amount of $8,135,000.00 plus a 10% contingency in the amount of $813,500.00, for a total amount not to exceed $8,948,500.00 for a term through project completion.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 26-_____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH TP HOWARD'S PLUMBING CO, INC. FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (NEP) AREA 8 - WATER DISTRIBUTION PROJECT

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-312, the City of Asheville has authority to operate a public enterprise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-20.1, the City of Asheville may enter into contracts with private entities to carry out any public purpose the City is authorized to engage in; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-129, bids were solicited for the project known as the Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) Area 8 - Water Distribution Project; and

WHEREAS,TP Howard's Plumbing Co, Inc. was the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the Project, in the amount of $8,135,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the project includes, but is not limited to, all labor, materials, equipment, and incidentals required for the installation of approximately 250 LF of 12-inch, 7000 LF of 8-inch, 21,000 LF of 6-inch ductile iron water line, related appurtenances and other miscellaneous water system components located in various neighborhoods and commercial corridors throughout the water service district.; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been reviewed by the Water Resources Department and the City's Office of Economic Development (Asheville Business Inclusion Compliance Office) with all officers recommending approval of the bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager, on behalf of the City of Asheville, is hereby authorized to execute a construction agreement with TP Howard's Plumbing Co, Inc. for Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) Area 8 - Water Distribution Project for the bid amount of $8,135,000.00, and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any contract amendments or change orders up to 10% of the bid amount ($813,500.00) for a total contract amount up to, but not to exceed, $8,948,500.00 for a term through project completion.

Read, approved and adopted this 13th day of January, 2026.

CITY CLERK MAYOR

Approved as to form:

CITY ATTORNEY