THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: March 23, 2021

Subject: 2020 Pressure Reducing Valve Replacement Project

Staff Resource(s): David Melton - Water Resources Director; Brandon Buckner - S/W Operation Division Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Cooper Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of $124,625 to demolish and replace the existing pressure reducing valve (PRV) stations with new installations for the Upper and Middle Sondley sites, plus a contingency of 15% ($18,693.75) for a total project budget of $143,318.75.

Background:

- The current pressure reducing valve (PRV) located near Windy Gap Road in the upper region of Haw Creek Valley was installed in 1990.
- The current water pressure entering the PRV is approximately 265 psi at any given time.
- The pressure is extremely high due to the elevation difference from the Peach Knob storage tank to the PRV.
- The PRV reduces the pressure to approximately 70 psi as it flows down into Haw Creek Valley.
- Due to the age and condition of the current application, it has reached the end of its life cycle.
- Water Resources staff is observing an upward trend of pressure leaving the PRV which means the current valve is slowly failing.
- The existing installations have fulfilled their useful life.
- Given the condition of the equipment and the design and installation constraints of these sites, the PRVs are unsafe and present a hazard to City infrastructure, City staff, and private property due to impending failure.
- In the event the Upper PRV fails completely, there are approximately five miles of infrastructure and 47 houses that would be compromised with pressure that would be too great to sustain.
- In 2019, Water Resources Department staff began working in collaboration with the engineering firm Cavanaugh and Associates to develop a plan to implement a new application at the previously mentioned sites. The outcome of this plan was the recommendation of a full replacement of the PRV. The recommended mechanism for installation was utilization of a third-party contract installer, procured through a formal bid process.
- The contract duration is scheduled to last no longer than 150 consecutive calendar days.

Formal Bid Process:

- 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 Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) firms submitted bids.
- Three firms submitted bids for this project:
    - TP Howard, Fairview, NC - $240,000
    - Carolina Specialties, Hendersonville, NC - $206,724
    - Cooper Construction Company, Flat Rock, NC - $124,625
- Cooper Construction Company was deemed the lowest responsive responsible bidder.
- The RFP was released prior to the January 1, 2021 Business Inclusion Policy effective date.
- The bid was deemed responsive by acceptable minority business outreach efforts in place at that time.

Council Goal(s):

- This project is aligned with the City and the Water Resources Department goal of continued investment and improvement of the City's water system through Capital Improvement Projects to provide safe and reliable service.

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Safeguards City infrastructure along with 47 private homes from impending damage and liability.
- Sustains the integrity and reliability of the water system.
- Progresses the City toward updating its aging infrastructure, which will ultimately result in higher confidence by customers and stakeholders.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- The funding needed for the contractual agreement is currently allocated within the Water Resources Capital Improvement Project Fund in the Meter/Vault Repair budget line item.

Suggested Motion:

- Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Cooper Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of $124,625 to demolish and replace the existing pressure reducing valve (PRV) stations with new installations for Upper and Middle Sondley locations, plus a contingency of 15% ($18,693.75) for a total project budget of $143,318.75.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21-_____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH COOPER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR THE 2020 PRESSURE REDUCING VALVE REPLACEMENT 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 2020 Pressure Reducing Valve Replacements Project; and

WHEREAS, Cooper Construction Company, Inc., was the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the project, in the amount of $124,625; and

WHEREAS, the project includes, but is not limited to, all labor, noted materials, equipment, and incidentals required for the installation of 2 Pressure Reducing Valve Stations along with related appurtenances and materials required in order to complete the work located along Windy Gap Road and East Sondley Drive; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been reviewed by the Water Resources Department and the City's Office of Economic Development (Minority Business Plan Compliance) 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 Cooper Construction Company, Inc., for the 2020 Pressure Reducing Valve Replacements Project for the contract amount of $124,625 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any contract amendments or change orders up to 15% ($18,693.75) for a total contract amount not to exceed $143,318.75.

Read, approved, and adopted this 9th day of March 2021.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

Approved as to form:

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CITY ATTORNEY