



REQUEST FOR ACTION CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 4/1/2025
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: Adopt Resolution 2025-036 Awarding Contract B in the amount of \$1,124,854.10 to Pratt's Affordable Excavating for Raw Watermain and Electrical Improvements related to the 2025 Water Supply Improvements - Wells 5 & 6, Municipal Project No. 6011-45040

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

SEH has been assisting the City of Baxter with the 2025 Water Supply Improvements - Wells 5 & 6 project. The project includes bidding three (3) separate contracts to contractors and suppliers to expedite the construction timeline: (A) well construction, (B) utilities construction, and (C) electrical/control panel procurement. This item includes information related to the contract award for Contract B – Raw Watermain and Electrical Improvements. Contracts A and C have previously been awarded.

The Utility Commission and Council authorized bidding for Contract B in February. Bids were opened at City Hall at 2:00 p.m. on March 18, 2025, for Contract B. A total of three (3) bids were received ranging between \$1,124,854.10 and \$1,356,577.55. The low bid was submitted by Pratt's Affordable Excavating, Inc. of Merrifield, Minnesota in the amount of \$1,124,854.10.

SEH and City Staff recommend awarding Contract B to the low bidder, Pratt's Affordable Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$1,124,854.10. Staff are requesting that the City Council award Contract B prior to review by the Utilities Commission to expedite the project schedule and allow the Contractor to begin to order materials which have a long lead time. The Contractor has indicated they are ready to begin the submittals process and ordering materials immediately after award.

The recommendation includes awarding both alternates for the project. Alternate 1 includes a credit of \$40,000.00 to utilize butterfly valves instead of gate valves on the 20" raw watermain. The recommendation to award Alternate 1 is made with the understanding the City will exercise the butterfly valves twice per year to keep the valves in good condition. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) generally recommends exercising buried valves once per year in water distribution systems but since the valves are being installed on the untreated well pipeline, SEH recommends exercising the valve to clean the disc and seat more often. City Public Works Staff has committed to a maintenance plan for exercising the valves two times per year. If the City will not exercise the butterfly valves on this schedule, the base bid of using gate valves should be awarded. Alternate 2 includes a \$100,469.00 addition to the bid to mill and overlay the parking area for the water treatment plant and public works facility. The bids received for Alternate 2 were favorable compared to the Engineer's opinion of probable cost for the work. In addition, the budgeted cost identified as part of the pavement management program for a typical City street mill and overlay is approximately \$27.00 per square yard for 2025 (this includes construction cost and engineering/administration costs). The per unit cost for the work included as Alternate 2 is approximately \$20.60 per square yard (this includes construction cost and engineering/administration costs), thus it is considered a favorable bid. Further, the pedestrian ramp at the entrance to the water treatment plant/public works facility park is not ADA-compliant and Alternate 2 includes correcting this issue. City Staff recommends award of this alternate.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A project budget summary is included as Exhibit A for reference.

Awarding Bid Alternate 2 will require transferring money from the five departments utilizing the facility and their associated budgets as this work is not required with the 2025 Water Supply Improvements – Wells 5 & 6 project. The five budgets include the following:

- Parks and Trails General Fund
- Streets General Fund
- Stormwater Enterprise Fund
- Water Enterprise Fund
- Sanitary Sewer Enterprise Fund

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommend adopting Resolution 2025-036 Awarding Contract B in the amount of \$1,124,854.10 to Pratt's Affordable Excavating for Raw Watermain and Electrical Improvements related to the 2025 Water Supply Improvements - Wells 5 & 6, Municipal Project No. 6011-45040. The recommendation includes awarding the Base Bid, Alternate 1, and Alternate 2.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Motion to Adopt Resolution 2025-036 Awarding the Base Bid, Alternate 1, and Alternate 2 for Contract B in the amount of \$1,124,854.10 to Pratt's Affordable Excavating for Raw Watermain and Electrical Improvements related to the 2025 Water Supply Improvements - Wells 5 & 6, Municipal Project No. 6011-45040.