



ITEM REPORT UTILITY COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 11/7/2024
Agenda Section: Business Item

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: Approve the Traut Companies Change Order No. 2 for additional well exploration services related to the 2024 Well Replacement Exploration Services in the amount of \$33,940.00

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

The Council awarded a Contract to Traut Companies at the August 7th Council Meeting. This work is being completed to identify future water supply well locations near the Public Works facility.

With the initiation of the drilling program on September 30, 2024, conditions for water supply installation were not favorable at one drilling location; discussions with City Staff resulted in modification of the original scope to explore two additional drilling locations and installation of a third monitoring well. Council approved Change Order No. 1 for additional drilling work at the October 15th Council Meeting.

The item presented here is related to work on the Public Works site for the City's Water Supply Improvements – Wells 5 & 6 project. One of the design decisions that needs to be made is the size of water main that will be used to connect the two new wells to the WTP. The current plan is to extend a 20-inch water main to the northeast corner of the public works campus for the current wells, to allow this larger main to be extended to the east in the future for future wells. As a result of the recent exploratory borings on the east side of the public works campus (those completed in October related to this 2024 Well Replacement Exploration project) being not favorable for future wells, the City and SEH wanted to inform Utility Commission and City Council members of ongoing discussions that have been happening related to this important design decision. SEH completed a cost-benefit analysis on the size of watermain to install different size mains versus drilling two (2) additional exploratory borings further to the east. Though two additional borings cannot confirm that no wells will ever be drilled east to the site, they could be used to help decide the appropriate size of watermain to install for the two wells. If the two additional borings appear favorable, the larger 20 inch main would be installed as planned. If the two additional borings do not appear favorable, the City could decide to install 12-inch and 14-inch water main instead to the wells. The difference in cost is estimated to be approximately \$120,000 in watermain cost alone between the two options for the pipe sizes noted above. This Change Order reflects field work of \$33,940.00, and estimated engineering fees of \$11,000.00, for a total of \$44,940.00.

Change Order No. 2 is for additional drilling services are proposed as part of a 2024 preliminary new wellfield investigation for the City of Baxter to assist with design decisions for expanding the existing well field. Data collected will be used to confirm geologic conditions on neighboring property east of the Public Works facility.

A copy of Change Order no. 2 is included for reference.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total of both the field work/drilling and the SEH contract was initially estimated at \$119,665.00.

Original Contract (Traut Companies): \$88,465

Change Order 1: \$23,492.50
Contract Amount approved to date (includes Change Order 1): \$111,957.50
Change Order 2 (pending approval): \$33,940.00
Total Potential Contract Amount (Traut Companies): \$145,897.50
Original SEH Contract: \$31,200.00
Future SEH Amendment (estimated amount for CO 1): \$12,000.00
Future SEH Amendment (estimated amount for CO 2): \$11,000.00
(Total Engineering Fees: \$54,200.00)
Total Budget (amended): \$200,097.50

SEH does not have an amendment for engineering fees prepared at this time. The intent is to complete one amendment at a subsequent meeting after direction is provided related to Change Order No. 2.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the Traut Companies Change Order No. 2 for a preliminary new wellfield investigation related to the 2024 Well Replacement Exploration Services in the amount of \$33,940.00.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

MOTION to approve the Traut Companies Change Order No. 2 for well exploration related to the 2024 Well Replacement Exploration Services in the amount of \$33,940.00.