



Staff Report

June 16, 2025 Council Regular Meeting

Construction Award for Task Order #4 Ultraviolet Disinfection and Equipment Building

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 10 minutes

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BACKGROUND: As equipment at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) continues to age, it is necessary to upgrade and replace this equipment to keep the plant running efficiently and meeting permit requirements with the Department of Ecology. The equipment building houses multiple treatment components for the plant which will receive upgrades including two new aeration blowers, an additional centrifuge for solids drying, updated HVAC controls to help cool electrical areas and ventilate areas with high hydrogen sulfide content, and a new backup generator for the building. The septage receiving station and the ultraviolet (UV) components in a separate building will also be upgraded. Clarifier mechanisms in both of the primary clarifiers will be replaced with stainless steel components to prolong their life. Electrical controls will be replaced with newer technology. All these components need to be upgraded due to age of the equipment, older technology, lack of support from suppliers and vendors, or difficulty in obtaining replacement parts. The upgrades will allow the plant to operate more efficiently with less staff time devoted to repair of equipment or reduced down time when equipment is being repaired.

SUMMARY: The City received 5 bids on the project. The low bidder on the project was Rotschy, Inc. at **\$9,107,739.00**. The engineer's estimate on the project was \$13,868,085.34.

There were two bid irregularities that arose with Rotschy, Inc.'s bid;

- 1) They did not submit their subcontractor list with their sealed bid, but did produce it right after the bid opening in Council Chambers.
- 2) They did not submit the required Contractor Certification Wage Law Compliance form. This item was covered within the "Mandatory Bidder Responsibility Criteria Information" which was submitted by Rotschy, Inc. with their bid.

Legal counsel has reviewed both these items would recommend to council that both these items be deemed minor in nature and would not prevent the low bidder from entering into a contract with the city to perform the work.

The City did receive one (1) bid protest from JW Fowler citing the bid irregularities in Rotschy, Inc.'s bid citing these two specific items as to why Rotschy Inc.'s bid should be considered non-responsive and therefore rejected.



Fig.1 Centrifuge Room in Equipment bldg.



Fig.2 Blower Room



Figures 3-5: Corroded Metal in Primary Clarifier Basin



Fig. 6 Generator



Fig 7 Septage Receiving Station



Fig. 8 Electrical Room/ HVAC upgrades



Fig. 9 Ultraviolet (UV) Bank



Fig. 10 Septage Receiving Station

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: The main purpose of the upgrades is to ensure that the plant continues to meet the city's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit with the Department of Ecology for both our solids and liquids handling processes. This will also ensure that we are putting clean water back into the Columbia River.

BUDGET IMPACT: The cost of the project is covered by revenue bonds being issued by the city in the amount of \$14,000,000 for this project.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council waive the bid irregularities and award the contract to Rotschy, Inc.