



# Town of Johnstown

## TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

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**AGENDA DATE:** June 7, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Award design services for Central Wastewater Treatment Plant

**ACTION PROPOSED:** Consider Awarding the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant Design Award to Aqua Engineering

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Agreement for Professional Design Services
2. Aqua Cost Proposal
3. Aqua Email Cost Certification
4. JUB Cost Proposal
5. Burns & MacDonald Cost Proposal

**PRESENTED BY:** Marco Carani, Public Works Director

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### AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Enclosed for Council's review and consideration is a request to award the design engineering contract for the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Central Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWWTP) is a critical improvement to the Town's wastewater treatment plant upgrades required to meet anticipated population growth and meet both current and future State Permit requirements with our existing wastewater flows. In April 2020, the Town awarded Aqua Engineering the design contract for expansion of the Town's Low Point Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The Low Point (WWTP) expansion design will increase the current .5 MGD plant to a 1.5 MGD plant utilizing Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) technology.

Design for the new treatment plant at Central was triggered by growth in Johnstown as well as by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) mandates and State Permit requirements. When a wastewater treatment plant reaches 80% design capacity, the community it serves is required to initiate planning for expansion of the facility. At 90% design capacity, the CDPHE expects the community to be under construction to expand or build a new facility to address the increasing capacity. The Town is currently constructing new Sewer Interceptors to the CWWTP to accommodate the growth currently experienced as well as account for the anticipated future population projections based on a stable economy over the next 10-20 years. Based on this potential, Staff has determined that upgrading Centrals current treatment from 0.999 MGD to 2.5 MGD will be required to meet anticipated capacity needs. The new plant will be designed and constructed to easily expand treatment with full build out up to 5.0 MGD.

In January of 2021, the Town solicited proposals for Engineering services from qualified consultants to prepare design drawings, technical specifications, and construction oversight for a new 2.5 MGD treatment facility to meet the Town's capacity projections and replace the Town's current outdated 0.999 MGD treatment capacity aerated lagoon system. The aerated lagoon system currently operates at a flow capacity ranging from .700 to .800 MGD and a BOD loading of 300 to 450 mg/l.

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The Town received three submittals:

Aqua Engineering	\$1,837,707 *Design & Construction Fees
JUB Engineers	\$2,562,240 *Design Fees Only
Burns & McDonnell Engineering	\$1,633,384 *Design Fees Only

The submittals were reviewed independently by the Public Works Director, Ramey Environmental Inc., and the Town Manager. Staff discussed the benefits of hiring either JUB Engineers or Burns & McDonnell Engineering over Aqua Engineering, who as previously noted is currently designing the Low Point Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion. Staff has built a positive relationship with Aqua Engineering during the design phase for Low Point and believes that Aqua understands the Town's needs and will develop the best design approach to meet those needs. Staff also identified the benefit of consolidating the design approach for the Town's two wastewater treatment plants to the same treatment approach to allow for Staff to rotate and manage operations easily and consistently; setting the Town up for success.

Staff is recommending Aqua Engineering for the attached overview of services which involves the design and construction oversight of the Town's new Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. Aqua Engineering was the lowest bidder for the proposal as JUB Engineers and Burns & McDonnell Engineering both submitted cost estimates based on design only that did not account for Construction Fees in the total cost summary. The Town is confident from the existing partnership on the Low Point project and the trust built with Staff that Aqua Engineering will deliver the best design for the new Central Wastewater Treatment due to their expertise and ability to meet the expectations of the Town.

#### **LEGAL ADVICE:**

The contract presented follows the same template for the Low Point WWTP which was reviewed by the Town Attorney.

#### **FINANCIAL ADVICE:**

In FY 2021, \$1,800,000 was budgeted and approved for design of the CWWTP design. Staff contacted Aqua Engineering and received email confirmation that they would reduce the proposed cost by \$37,707 to perform the work within the appropriated budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends awarding Design for the new Central WWTP to Aqua Engineering for a total amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.

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#### **SUGGESTED MOTIONS:**

**For Approval:** I move to award the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant Design Contract to Aqua Engineering contract as presented for a total not to exceed \$1,800,000.

**For Denial:** I move that Council denies awarding this design contract and solicit more bids for Central Wastewater Treatment Plant Design project.

*Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,*



Town Manager

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