
CITY OF PORT LAVACA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 14, 2022

AGENDA ITEM _____

DATE: 3.07.2021

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BROOKS LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS

Background: The January 2020 Urban Engineering Lift Station Assessment Report, the Brooks Lift Station (on Half League Road in City park) is described as in “unsafe/very poor condition” and was recommended for complete reconstruction. In addition, the existing station has a capacity of 0.36 MGD, but sees peaks flows of over 0.5 MGD. A copy of the assessment of the lift station can be found at this link: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:82cb0162-5513-4a98-8237-cb6c3392fa3a>

Urban Engineering was authorized under Task Order No. 23 to prepare plans and bid documents for this lift station replacement and upgrade. The proposed upgrade will have a total capacity of over 0.8 MGD allowing for future growth. Bids were advertised in the Port Lavaca Wave and invitations sent to Lester Contracting (Port Lavaca), Mercer Construction (Edna), Matula & Matula (Lake Jackson), Supak Construction (Orchard, TX), JTM (Rosenburg), and Keystone Construction (Austin), as well as several plan rooms. Bids were due on February 24. Only one bid was received from Lester Contracting. A bid tabulation is attached.

Financial Impact: \$500,000 was originally budgeted for this lift station replacement. This amount was reduced to \$300,000 last year after receiving bids on the Lynnhaven Lift Station and comparing the scopes of the two projects. To date \$32,800 has been encumbered for the Brooks Lift Station to pay for the engineering services.

The Base Bid amount is \$611,112.00, which we recognize is over twice the budgeted funds. Nearly \$70,000 of this is to demolish the existing lift station, which honestly had been overlooked when comparing the scope with Lynnhaven. We are currently looking at a change order which would reduce this demolition cost by only demolishing the above ground structure and simply backfilling the wet well in place. Other reasons for the higher than expected bid are basically a function of the state of our present economy and skyrocketing prices of materials.

This is an improvement project that has been needed to be done for many years and we do not recommend postponing. Neither do we realistically expect any reduced pricing if we were to put this out to bids again. As you can see, several utility contractors were actively solicited to bid, including a few plan rooms and the general response was they were already too busy.

To award the Base Bid project with a cost of \$611,112.00 we need \$343,912 of additional funds. There is about \$457,250 in the Utility Construction Account Fund which is set aside for the 12” water line between the two towers. Recall, this project was put on the back burner pending additional study. We would like to reassign \$350,000 of these funds to the Brooks Lift Station project in order to award this Base Bid now.

Staff recommendation: Staff recommends that Council award a construction project to Lester Construction in the amount of \$611,112.00 for this project. To fully fund the award, staff recommends that \$350,000 of funds reserved for the 12” waterline link project be reassigned to this project.

Attachment: Bid Tabulation