

ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM MEMO REGULAR MEETING

SUBJECT: 2024 Flagg Rd and 20th Street RMU Utility adjustments and relocation project bid proposals

Staff Contact: Sam Tesreau, City Engineer

cc: Blake Toliver, Supt. of Electric Operations and Jay Mulholland, Asst. Supt. of Electric Operations

Summary: Ogle County and the City of Rochelle entered into an intergovernmental agreement to begin Engineering design and eventual reconstruction of the Flagg Rd and 20th Street greater intersection improvements in 2023. During the ongoing Engineering design phase in late 2023, it was determined the intersection geometric footprint would need to be much larger to accommodate the new expanded transportation and pedestrian improvements. Several utilities, including RMU overhead electric and fiber utilities installed over 17 years ago, will need to be relocated as part of said project before any construction can begin on the intersection project.

Willett Hoffman and Associates (WHA), who is providing Engineering services for the City of Rochelle and Ogle County on the Flagg Rd and 20th Street intersection and roadway reconstruction project, began separate utility relocation plans for the Supt. of RMU Electric Operations in March 2024. Subsequently the project was let for bid in May 2024. Since that time the County Engineer has also issued a permit for relocation of the RMU utilities in the Flagg Road right of way.

The above referenced project was advertised in the Rochelle News leader and on the City's website. Bids were publicly opened and read aloud on May 30, 2024 for the above referenced project. Four bids were received as follows:

- Helm Electric Facility Solutions, Inc. submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$267,437.84.
- Utility Dynamics Corp. submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$528,155.00.
- William Charles Electric submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$592,505.50.
- Western Utility LLC submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$819,694.00.

The lowest bid received by Helm Electric Facility Solutions, Inc. is approximately 33% lower than the Willett Hoffman Associates Engineers estimate of cost. However, on June 10th Scott McGinn, from Helm Electric, issued a letter to RMU consulting Engineer WHA that they were withdrawing their bid due to mathematical errors with bid line items. The City Engineer responded to Mr. McGinn's letter and indicated that the City would reserve it's right to draw upon their submitted bid bond to pay any expenses associated with rebidding of the project due to the errors and ultimate withdraw of the bid.

The next lowest bidder is over 40% higher than the WHA Engineer's estimate of cost. After discussion with the City Manager and Supt. of Electric Operations, given the withdrawal of the lowest bid, significant difference in bids received and the excessive cost difference over the Engineer's estimate of cost, it is recommended that all bids be

rejected, and that the project be rebid at a future date. The original completion date for the RMU utility adjustments was early September but will be extended to later in 2024.

Funding Sources:

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:
RMU Electric Utility		

Strategic Plan Goal Application: Infrastructure Effectiveness and Improvement

Recommendation:

- Consider rejecting all bids received and rebid the project at a future date.

Supporting Documents:

Enclosure (1)