

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN OF WPC PLANT SCADA PROJECT – PHASE II

BACKGROUND:

In 2004, Kaeding and Associates, Inc., worked with City staff to identify a comprehensive, long-term solution to the information and control needs of the Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant. In September 2004, Council received the written report that was the result of this study. That report recommended replacing the existing proprietary system with a new programmable logic controller- (PLC) based system similar to the one installed at the City's Water Plant. This replacement became Phase I of the larger WPC Plant Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) project. The new system preserved all the capabilities of the previous system while allowing much greater flexibility to control individual treatment processes and equipment. The system provides plant operators with greater control over system set points and alarm levels, and offers greater expandability to add new instrumentation and automated control schemes over time. In addition, the PLC-based system is more generic. Thus, on-going repair, maintenance, and support will be less expensive and more available. Phase II of the SCADA project will include replacement and expansion of field control elements.

During Phase I, Kaeding and Associates, Inc. merged with Barr Engineering, Inc. The project manager for Barr Engineering is the same engineer who staff has worked with on a number of controls projects for both the WPC Plant and the Water Plant. Staff has been impressed with the quality of work provided and has received numerous favorable comments from contractors about the thoroughness of plans and specifications prepared. Now that detailed design work is ready to begin for the WPC Plant SCADA Phase II upgrade, staff believes continuing to work with Barr Engineering will allow continuity with the design, as well as provide a more standardized SCADA architecture between the Water Plant and the WPC Plant. For these reasons, staff requests authorization to waive the purchasing policy that requires competitive proposals for procurement of professional services costing more than \$25,000.

Barr Engineering has provided a proposal for design and bidding services for Phase II of this project. The proposal presented to Council for Phase II is in the amount of \$47,205, plus reimbursables estimated at \$3,500. Both costs are not to be exceeded without prior authorization by the City. An additional agreement will be made with Barr Engineering for the Phase II construction inspection services once the design work has been completed.

The budget associated with the current year's Capital Improvements Plan includes \$462,100 for the Phase II engineering and construction work.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the engineering services agreement with Barr Engineering, Inc. of Minneapolis, Minnesota in an amount not to exceed \$50,705 for Phase II design and bidding services.
2. Direct staff to solicit proposals from additional engineering firms for the design of Phase II.
3. Do not proceed with the Phase II design work at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The project manager for Barr Engineering, Inc. has a long history of providing high-quality electrical/control engineering work for the Water and Pollution Control Department. Contracting with Barr Engineering will also provide continuity with the previous SCADA work done at the WPC Plant.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the engineering services agreement with Barr Engineering, Inc.