ITEM # 12
DATE: 10-26-10

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **HIGH PRESSURE SLUICE PUMP FOR POWER PLANT**

BACKGROUND:

This quote is for the purchase of one complete high pressure sluice pump for the Electric Services Power Plant. The Plant currently has four Goulds Model 3405 pumps in service. Two of them are called Ash Sluice Booster Pumps and are located in the pond pump house. These pumps serve both Unit 7 and Unit 8 boilers, and are required to remove and sluice the ash from the boilers to the ash ponds on a nearly continuous basis. The other two are called High Pressure Ash Sluice Pumps, and supply high pressure water directly to the ash removal system. All four pumps are identical except for impeller diameter.

Staff's plan is to purchase one pump, install it, and then rebuild the removed pump. Over the next few years the other three pumps would be removed, rebuilt and reinstalled. The end result would be one new pump in service, three rebuilt pumps in service, and one spare rebuilt pump available should any of the in-service pumps fail.

On August 19, 2010, a request for quotation (RFQ) document was issued to seventeen potential bidders. The RFQ was also advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage.

On September 9, 2010, two quotes were received as shown below:

1) A-L-L Equipment, Moline, IL	Option # 1	$30,655.50
	Option # 2	$29,847.65
2) Central States Group, Cedar Rapids, IA		$60,015.88

Electric Services staff reviewed the quotes. Staff performed a comprehensive evaluation of the quote submitted by A-L-L Equipment and determined that the pump quoted will not work with the Plant's application without making modifications to the infrastructure that supports the pump.

The area of concern is that the pump quoted by A-L-L Equipment would not fit on the existing baseplate. As a result, the pump foundation would have to be modified and a new baseplate would need to be purchased and installed for the new pump to work. The estimated cost to remove the old baseplate and install a new base and anchor bolts with foundation modifications is $25,000. **Therefore, should the pump from A-L-L Equipment be selected for purchase, the actual cost to put the pump in service would be the purchase price on either option 1 or 2, plus the cost of the**

modification of the foundation and the new baseplate ($25,000), or approximately $55,000. Additionally, should this pump fail in the future, the spare rebuilt pump could not be used in its place until a repair could be completed.

Staff concluded that the quote in the amount of $60,015.88 submitted by Central States Group, Cedar Rapids, IA, is acceptable, and allows for the greatest functionality in the case of any future pump failures. The pump that Central States quoted is the same pump that is currently in use at the Power Plant and requires no infrastructure modifications. By purchasing a direct replacement, staff will have maximum flexibility on where any of the pumps may be installed in the aforementioned applications while all the pumps are being rebuilt over the next few years. Additionally, inventories of spare parts would be kept at a minimum due to the commonality of the pumps.

The approved FY 2010/11 operating budget contains $95,000 for #8 Ash System and $45,000 for #7 Ash System for a total of $140,000 that will be used for the purchase of this pump, and possibly to rebuild one or more additional pumps.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Central States Group, Cedar Rapids, IA, for the high pressure sluice pump in the amount of $60,015.88.

2. Award a contract to A-L-L Equipment for either the option #1 or #2 pump quoted and direct staff to modify the pump foundation and install a new baseplate at an additional cost of approximately $25,000.

3. Reject the quotes and delay the replacement of the sluice pump.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Purchase of the high pressure sluice pump insures continued efficient operation of the sluice pumping system. Having one of these sluice pumps offline could increase the risk of ash not being removed from the bottom of the boiler. As a result, the Plant may have to shut down until the pumps are operating correctly. Also, by purchasing a sluice pump from Central States Group, staff can maintain uniformity throughout the sluice pumps in the Plant. This should result in lower maintenance costs, greater service efficiencies and reduce the amount of needed parts inventory.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby awarding a contract to Central States Group, Cedar Rapids, IA, for the high pressure sluice pump in the amount of $60,015.88.