

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: REPORT OF BIDS FOR 2013 SOFTBALL FIELD FENCING & LIGHTING IN SOUTH RIVER VALLEY PARK**

**BACKGROUND:**

This project is to replace fencing and lighting on two softball diamonds in the South River Valley Park. The current fencing is old and is a potential safety hazard. The lighting is currently inadequate. The budget for this project is \$260,000. The architectural/engineering firm's original estimate for construction of this project was \$293,000.

**Thus far, \$14,500 has been used for design fees and \$8,500 for soil borings at the site. This brings the remaining budget to \$237,000 for construction. Depending on the chosen alternates, the remaining costs may be high as \$272,450**

**Softball Field Fencing Project:**

Bidder	Base Bid:	Add Alt. #1 (backstop 16' high rather 12")	Add Alt. #2A (expanding width of backstop an additional 10")	Add Alt. #2B (add 10" width to backstop with 16' high)	Add Alt. #3A (manufactured foul poles)	Add Alt. #3B (custom designed foul poles)	Max. Total With Alternates (#1, #2B, #3B)
Des Moines Steel Fence Co. Inc., Des Moines IA	\$47,890	\$1,710	\$1,570	\$2,080	\$3,720	\$3,870	\$55,550

Softball Field Lighting Project: Bidder	Base Bid:	Add Alt. #1 (upgrade to "competitive" lighting)	Deduct Alt. #2 (direct bury the wiring)	Add Alt. #3 (new wire to scoreboards)	Add Alt. #4 (new wiring to irrigation systems)	Max. Total With Alternates (excluding #2)
Van Maanen Electric, Inc., Newton IA	\$173,000	\$38,500	\$-5,600	\$2,200	\$3,200	\$216,900
Ardent Lighting Group LLC, Knoxville, IA	\$193,114	\$31,755	\$-1,545	\$5,199	\$5,153	\$235,221

The City Council should note that the CIP for the Parks and Recreation Department also includes the repairs to the Skate Park as well as the construction of Sand Volleyball Courts with lights at Emma McCarthy Lee Park. Initial estimates indicate that the Skate Park and Sand Volleyball projects may require more funds than are budgeted.

Staff has identified additional savings from the following projects that could be used to finance the overages projected for the three CIP projects: Carr Pool demolition

(\$20,000), Ada Hayden bridge erosion (\$15,000), Furman Aquatics Center message board (\$15,000), and Homewood bank stabilization (\$10,000).

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Accept the report of bids for the 2013 Softball Field Fencing and Lighting in South River Valley Park but do not award bids on the project at this time.

This delay will allow staff the time to examine in greater detail the projected costs for the three CIP projects and prioritize the which projects should receive the savings identified from other approved projects.

2. Approve low bid from Des Moines Steel with the Base Bid and Alternate 3B (\$51,760) the bid from Van Maanen Electric with the Base Bid, Alternates #2, #3, and #4 (\$172,800).

This alternative would total \$224,560 which is well within the available budgeted funding.

2. Reject all bids.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**The proposed project will provide much needed improvements to two softball fields, reducing the safety hazard of the old fencing and improving the lighting. However, staff is currently working to better understand the scope of repairs needed to the Skate Park and to obtain a second cost estimate for the Sand Volleyball Courts before moving forward with award of contracts on South River Valley. Since all three projects may require more funding, staff requires additional time to prioritize the needs for each of these projects.**

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby accepting the report of bids for the 2013 Softball Field Fencing and Lighting in South River Valley Park but not awarding bids on the project at this time.