

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR 2013 SOFTBALL FIELD FENCING & LIGHTING PROJECT AT 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.

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 16' high backstop)	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

Regarding the fencing alternates, only Alternate #3B was selected so these two diamonds at South River Valley will look just like the four diamonds at North River Valley.

Since the City's softball program is focused predominantly on recreational leagues, the base bid includes lighting that meets the Amateur Softball Association's standard for this type of play. Deduct Alternate #2 has been selected so the wire will be direct buried versus using conduit. Alternate #'s 3 & 4 are being selected because this is good opportunity to upgrade the wire to these amenities. There is also a good chance this wiring may be cut when installing the lights and it will be better to install new wiring versus splicing the old.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award the fencing bid to Des Moines Steel with the Base Bid and Alternate #3B (\$51,760) and the lighting bid to Van Maanen Electric with the Base Bid and Alternates #2, #3, and #4 (\$172,800).

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

2. Award the fencing base bid to Des Moines Steel with some other combination of alternates or the lighting base bid to Ardent Lighting Group with some other combination of alternates.
3. 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.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby awarding the fencing bid to Des Moines Steel with the Base Bid and Alternate 3B (\$51,760) and the lighting bid to Van Maanen Electric with the Base Bid, Alternates #2, #3, and #4 (\$172,800).