

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT - AMES FIRE STATION #2 RESTROOM ADDITION**

**BACKGROUND:**

Fire Station #2 is over 50 years old. The building was designed during a time when no consideration was given to accommodate female firefighters. The current fire station has two restrooms. The main one is equipped with two showers, a stool, and a urinal. The second one is located next to the truck room and is considered a half-bath (stool and lavatory).

As a temporary fix, the Fire Department added signage and locks to both restrooms at Station #2. They are both labeled as unisex or all-gender restrooms. This temporary fix allows for privacy and equal access to the restrooms for all genders and visitors to the station.

This project calls for adding an additional 3/4 restroom (stool, lavatory, and shower), to better accommodate female firefighters. Fire Station #2 restrooms are often used by firefighters, the public, and other city/county/ISU agencies, especially during events.

The construction of the additional restroom requires relocation of an existing storage closet that is used to store firefighting gear and maintenance equipment. To help offset the loss of this storage space, an additional \$5,387 has been added to the project to purchase storage and gear racks.

The Fire Station #2 Restroom CIP was drafted in 2017, before learning that City Council had an interest in possibly relocating Fire Station #2. The 2017-18 approved CIP project was carried forward to this current year's CIP budget, as staff continues to evaluate the feasibility of relocating the station for Council. There is \$50,000 budgeted for the project. However, \$275 has already been spent on architectural design fees, and \$5,387 has been set aside to purchase storage and gear racks, leaving \$44,338 for the project.

The project went out for bid last month and the lowest bid came in \$61,720, which is \$17,382 over budget. We currently have \$16,245 available in this year's 2018/19 CIP budget, from local option sales tax, for a Fire Station signage project that has not yet been started. The \$16,245 from the Fire Station signage project could be reallocated to cover the budget shortfall. The remaining shortfall of \$1,137 could be pulled from Fire's minor equipment and tool budget by delaying some purchases till next year.

Two bids were received on March 21, 2019, and are summarized below.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Story Construction Company, Ames IA	\$61,720.00
Bergstrom Construction, Inc., Des Moines, IA	\$67,959.00

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Reject the bids and do not make an award at this time. Funds for this project can be carried forward to next year, as Council evaluates relocating Fire Station #2.
2. Accept the report of bids for the Ames Fire Station #2 Restroom Addition and award the contract to Story Construction Company of Ames, IA in the amount of \$61,720.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Last year, City Council directed staff to evaluate the possibility of relocating Fire Station #2 out of its current location, as part of a bigger Campustown vision discussion. **As staff continues to evaluate the feasibility of relocating Fire Station #2, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby rejecting the bids for the Ames Fire Station #2 restroom addition and carrying those funds forward to next year should Council decide not to move forward with relocating the station.**