

ITEM #: 20
DATE: 10-24-23
DEPT: ELEC.

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO DESIGN POWER PLANT LOAD CENTER REPLACEMENT

BACKGROUND:

There are seven load centers that take power from 3-phase 480V buses and distribute it to equipment in the Power Plant. The active load centers are built for old, obsolete breakers. The age makes repairing the circuit breakers unreliable and presents safety challenges. This contract is to perform the engineering to design the replacement load centers at the Power Plant.

On July 17, 2023, a Request for Proposals was posted to AmesBids. On August 23, 2023, Purchasing received three proposals, as outlined below.

FIRM	RANK	PRICE
Farris Engineering, Omaha, NE	1	\$122,822
Burns & McDonnell, Chicago, IL	2	\$208,000
Zachry Engineering, Omaha, NE	3	\$517,000

Proposals were evaluated by an evaluation team comprised of Electric and Purchasing staff. The evaluation team determined that the proposal from Farris Engineering, Omaha, NE, demonstrated the best project understanding and offered the best qualified professionals. **The approved FY 2022/23 CIP budget includes a total of \$1,850,000 to complete this three-year project. Of this total, \$200,000 has been allocated for engineering.**

ALTERNATIVES:

- A. Award a contract to Farris Engineering, Omaha, NE, for Engineering Services to Design Load Center Replacement at the Power Plant, in an amount not to exceed \$122,822.
- B. Award a contract to one of the other firms.
- C. Reject all proposals and direct staff to rebid.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The load centers located in the Power Plant are critical infrastructure when considering the reliable and safe operation of the Power Plant. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.