

## STAFF REPORT TO THE AMES CITY COUNCIL

### Water Pollution Control Plant Pump Replacement Project March 2011

---

The City of Ames Water and Pollution Control Department is in its final year of a five-year CIP pump replacement project. On January 28, 2011, staff issued a request for bidders to provide four raw water pumps. The purchase of the new replacement pumps is considered maintenance and not a public improvement project; thus, Council was not required to issue a Notice to Bidders. However, because of the dollar amount, award of a contract would have required action by the Council.

Bids were received, and the apparent low bidder offered equipment as understood in the specifications provided. However, on closer examination, it was discovered that the bid documents did not specify certain elements that allowed interchangeability with our existing pumps in the raw water pump station. Interchangeability is very important and essential to operation since the different pumps serve different functions. Accepting pumps that are not interchangeable is not an option in the best interest of the City of Ames.

As indicated in the specifications, bids are now reported to Council. Results of the bid are shown in the table below.

#### *Raw Water Vertical Turbine Solids-handling Pump*

<i>Base Bid – High-efficiency Motor</i>		<i>Bid Alternate - NEMA Premium™ Motor</i>	
<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Unit Cost, \$</b>	<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Unit Cost, \$</b>
Fairbanks Morse	No bid	Fairbanks Morse	80,710.00
Flowserve U.S., Inc.	60,431.00	Flowserve U.S., Inc.	No bid
Patterson Pump Co.	99,125.00	Patterson Pump Co.	99,125.00

Staff intends to reject the bids and rebid the equipment with a solid definition of what constitutes "interchangeable" included in the specifications. **Therefore, no action is required of the City Council at this time.**