

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF 161 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM AMES PLANT TO NE ANKENY FOR IOWA D.O.T.

BACKGROUND:

On July 26, 2016, City Council approved preliminary plans and specifications for the Ames Plant to NE Ankeny 161 kV Transmission Line Iowa DOT Relocation. The Iowa Department of Transportation is **carrying out two highway improvement projects** in the vicinity of the Skunk River and along Interstate 35 at the Highway 30 interchange. In this report, staff refers to these as the **Skunk River project** and the **I-35/Hwy. 30 relocation project**. These two projects require relocation of a portion of the new Ames 161kV transmission line.

These two projects were packaged into one construction bid with the goal of getting better bids, and were issued to twelve companies. The bid was advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage and a Legal Notice was published in the Ames Tribune. The bid was also sent to one plan room.

On August 10, 2016, five bids were received as shown below:

Bidder	I-35/Hwy 30 Bid	Skunk River Bid	Bid Total
Hooper Corporation Madison, WI	\$286,004.06	\$709,028.37	\$995,032.43
PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. Kansas City, MO	\$381,387.50	\$618,612.40	\$999,999.90
Michels Power Neenah, WI	\$343,278.43	\$735,523.60	\$1,078,802.03
M. J. Electric, LLC Iron Mountain, MI	\$346,885.96	\$763,543.70	\$1,110,429.66
Ward Electric Company, Inc. Longmont, CO	\$431,784.92	\$1,226,119.79	\$1,657,904.71

Electric Services staff reviewed the bids with an engineer from the City's consulting engineer, DGR. They concluded that the apparent low bid submitted by Hooper Corporation, Madison, WI, in the amount of \$995,032.43 (inclusive of applicable sales tax) is acceptable.

The engineer's estimate for both projects was \$870,000.

All engineering and construction expenses for both relocation projects will be reimbursed by IDOT. **Two separate IDOT construction reimbursement agreements are being brought to Council for approval elsewhere on this agenda, one for each project, with specific estimated construction costs.**

At the time the FY 2015/16 Capital Improvements Plan was approved, \$800,000 was included for engineering and construction for only one project, Skunk River, entitled the "161 kV Line Relocation" project. Since that time, the IDOT has requested that the second section of line also be relocated. Given that the cost for the engineering for both projects equaled \$140,000, \$660,000 remains available in the budget for the construction work on both projects.

While no funds were budgeted for the I-35/Hwy 30 relocation segment, the IDOT staff has committed to reimburse the City for both projects. **The City budget will be amended later to accommodate the addition of the second location.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Hooper Corporation, Madison, WI, for the Ames Plant to NE Ankeny 161 kV Transmission Line Iowa DOT Relocation in the amount of \$995,032.43.
2. Award a contract to one of the other bidders.
3. Reject all bids which would delay the IDOT's project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In order to facilitate these IDOT improvements, the City's 161 kV transmission line must be relocated in both areas.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.