

ITEM #: 14
DATE: 11-28-23
DEPT: Electric

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: CHANGE ORDER TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT
THE 161KV ELECTRIC LINE RELOCATION PROJECT FOR IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION I-35 IMPROVEMENTS IN POLK
COUNTY**

BACKGROUND:

The City owns a 161kV electric transmission line that extends from Ames to an electric substation on the northeast side of Ankeny. The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) is widening Interstate 35 in Polk County between Ankeny and the Skunk River. The majority of the road improvements are being made to the west side of I-35, but some improvements are taking place on both sides of the Interstate at NE 126th Ave, NE 142nd Ave and NE 158th Ave. The work on the east side of the interstate at these three locations requires the relocation of Ames' 161kV electric transmission line, which is located adjacent to the east side of the interstate at these three locations.

The City has entered into reimbursement agreements with IDOT for both the professional services and construction services required for this effort. **The City has performed the necessary relocation work at this time to allow IDOT to perform its improvements. However, additional work will be needed to return the 161kV line to its final alignment once IDOT has completed its improvements. At this time all professional services funds have been expended and additional funds will be needed for construction administration, construction management and final design support and record drawings.**

The reasons for this increase are for additional surveying services needed to determine the extent of crop damage areas in the vicinity of the relocation construction and to provide additional effort during the construction administration phase of the project to review contractor materials, manage construction scheduling and outage coordination, and remediate landowner property access challenges and construction management issues. Weather delays, material acquisition difficulties, and addressing property owner construction concerns have created this need for additional engineering support.

The City Council previously approved a Professional Services Agreement with Dewilt Grant Reckert (DGR) in the amount of \$291,000 for this work. In order to proceed with the final construction administration phase of work, staff is requesting City Council approve a change order to the this agreement in the amount of \$59,000. The IDOT reimbursement agreement for engineering services contains an allowance of 125% for changes such as this. Since this increase is below that amount, the City is not required to request IDOT approval for the change. **The entire cost of this project will be reimbursed by IDOT in accordance with the previous City Council and IDOT approved reimbursement agreement.** There remain sufficient funds in the FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement budget to cover this Change Order.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a change order in the amount of \$59,000 to Dewilt Grant Reckert (DGR), for a revised contract total of \$350,000.
2. Do not approve the change order.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The relocation of this transmission line is necessary to facilitate the widening of I-35 being undertaken by the Iowa DOT. Additional funds are necessary to allow Ames' transmission line to be relocated to its final alignment following IDOT improvements. All City costs will be reimbursed by the IDOT. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as stated above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Amendment No. 1](#)