

ITEM #: 22
 DATE: 07-09-24
 DEPT: W&PC

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: WATER TREATMENT PLANT LIME SLUDGE DISPOSAL CONTRACT RENEWAL

BACKGROUND:

The City of Ames Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is a conventional lime-softening facility that generates lime sludge as a by-product of the softening process. The lime sludge consists primarily of calcium carbonate and magnesium hydroxide, which is dewatered and stored in lagoons prior to disposal on agricultural ground as a soil conditioner. To continue to have adequate storage capacity, the lime sludge must be cleaned out of the lagoons annually.

On June 13, 2023, City Council awarded a contract to Wulfekuhle Injection and Pumping, Inc. of Peosta, Iowa for the removal and disposal of lime sludge. The contract calls for the removal of 26,000 wet tons of lime at a unit cost of \$14.89 per wet ton, and mobilization charges of \$5,000 for a total contract price of \$392,140. The contract is renewable annually for a total of five years, dependent on successful performance by the contractor each year. The contract unit prices are fixed for the entire five-year agreement.

Work performed under contract for FY 2023/24 is approximately one-third complete due to the wet spring. The contractor has assured staff that it will get the remaining tonnage hauled out and land-applied as soon as weather cooperates. Staff recommends awarding the second year of the agreement to Wulfekuhle Injection and Pumping Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$392,140 for FY 2024/25 (contract period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025).

Lime Sludge Disposal	26,000 wet tons	@ \$14.89/ton	\$387,140
Mobilization	1	@ \$5,000 ea.	\$5,000
Total FY 24/25 Contract			\$392,140

Award for future renewal years will be brought to Council annually and will be subject to the contractor’s acceptable ongoing performance, the proposed cost increase, and the annual allocation of sufficient funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Wulfekuhle Injection and Pumping Inc. of Peosta, IA, for FY 2024/25 (Year Two of a five-year contract) for lime sludge disposal services in the amount of \$392,140.
2. Reject bids and direct staff to solicit new bids for lime sludge disposal.
3. Reject bids and direct staff to pursue landfilling of the lime sludge in lieu of land application.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Wulfekuhle Injection and Pumping, Inc. is currently completing the FY 2023/24 lime sludge disposal. The original bid included the option to extend the agreement for up to five years, on a year-to-year basis. Staff is satisfied with the performance of the contractor to date and is recommending that a second year be awarded at the same cost as FY 2023/24. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.