

ITEM #:	<u>19</u>
DATE:	<u>04-28-26</u>
DEPT:	<u>ELEC</u>

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: SPECIALIZED WET DRY VACUUM, HYDRO BLAST, AND RELATED CLEANING SERVICES FOR POWER PLANT - CONTRACT RENEWAL

BACKGROUND:

The Power Plant's two gas-fired, high-pressure steam generation units are referred to as Units No. 7 and 8. These units require regular professional maintenance and repair. **This contract consists of emergency service, as well as regularly scheduled planned repairs and services during scheduled outages.** The cleaning and special preparation of the boiler surfaces on these generation units require professional tradecrafts and maintenance experts.

Both units operate under conditions with high heat and high pressure, resulting in slag and other industrial debris coating the boiler and other plant equipment surfaces. **Prior to repair and maintenance work, it is necessary to have the surfaces professionally cleaned using high-pressure water jets and industrial vacuum trucks.**

In order to clean the surfaces, it is necessary to retain outside contractors equipped with mobile, high-pressure equipment that is designed to cut through and wash away the slag. Industrial vacuum trucks that can remove this debris are required for proper disposal. The goal of this contract is to meet these requirements in the most economical manner.

On May 23, 2023, Ames City Council awarded a contract to HTH Companies, Inc. of Union, Mo, for Specialized Wet Dry Vacuum, Hydro Blast, and Related Cleaning Services . The contract includes an option that would allow the City to renew the contract for up to four additional one-year terms. **This is the third of four additional renewal contract periods.**

The City Council should note that the rates charged by HTH Companies, Inc. will increase by 3% compared to the current rates, as indicated in its original bid document.

Staff recommends that these services continue to be outsourced on an annual renewable contract basis. The benefits of having a contract for these services in place include the following:

1. Consistency of work and quality from a single contractor.
2. Reduction in the City's exposure to market forces regarding prices and availability for labor, travel, and supplies in preparation for a scheduled outage.
3. Rapid contractor mobilization to start emergency repairs, thus reducing generation downtime.

4. Saved City staff time obtaining quotes, evaluating bids and preparing specifications and other procurement documentation.

The FY 2026/27 Power Plant operating budget includes \$140,000 for miscellaneous cleaning services to be performed under this contract. Invoices will be calculated using the agreed contract rates for time and materials, based on the services actually provided.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the contract renewal with HTH Companies, Inc., Union, MO, for Specialized Wet Dry Vacuum, Hydro Blast, and Related Cleaning Services for the one-year period from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 in an amount not-to-exceed \$140,000.
2. Reject the renewal option and instruct staff to seek new competitive bids.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This work is necessary to ensure that a qualified professional firm will respond to both scheduled and emergency needs for these specialized cleaning services, and will also control costs by having established billing rates. Funds will be expended only as work is required and in accordance with approved invoices. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.