



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
City Council Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: 03-07-2022

Prepared By: Kevin Schone-Public Works Director

Agenda Item: Chemicals-Bid Award

Explanation: On Wednesday, February 2, 2022 bids were opened and publicly read for the City's purchase and delivery of liquid chlorine, hydrofluosilicic acid, liquid ferric chloride, polymer, and phosphate for use at Water Treatment Plants 1 & 2 and Sewage Treatment Plant 2. Bid documents were forwarded to 14 prospective suppliers and 5 proposals were returned.

Brenntag Mid-South is the apparent low bidder for chemicals specified in the contract documents other than polymer and phosphate highlighted in yellow. Assuming the award is made to Brenntag for the chemicals listed in the bid tab below, the following is an analysis of the comparative difference in cost of chemicals from last FY.

Brenntag	FY 21-22 Cost	FY 22-23 Cost	% Change
Liquid Chlorine – 150 lbs. cylinders	\$74.00	\$170.25	+ 56.5%
Liquid Chlorine – 1-ton containers	\$624.00	\$1,644.00	+ 62.1%
Hydrofluosilicic Acid	\$92.00	\$106.50	+13.6%
Ferric Chloride	\$0.128	\$0.165	+22.2%
Polymer	\$1.99	\$2.44	+18.4%
WSU 350 Phosphate	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid

Below is the bid tab for phosphate that was bid sole sourced in FY 18/19 to avoid changing the chemical make-up of the current process. Water Solutions Unlimited, our current vendor, as well as one other bidder, submitted bids for FY 22/23, however Water Solutions Unlimited remains the low bidder on the WSU 350 product. WSU also bid on the Hydrofluosilicic Acid this year but are not the low bidder on this product, highlighted in yellow. Assuming the award is made to Water Solutions Unlimited for Phosphate, the following is an analysis of the comparative differences in cost from last FY.

Water Solutions Unlimited	FY 21-22 Cost	FY 22-23 Cost	% Change
Hydrofluosilicic Acid	Did Not Bid	\$126.00 ea.	N/A
WSU 350 Phosphate	\$1.96	\$2.19	+10.5%

And finally, the bid tab below is for the polymer used the wastewater treatment plant #2. This product was bid by Solenis and is \$0.52 less per pound, saving roughly \$5000 if all of the 9500 pounds were purchased. Assuming Council awards the purchase of polymer from Solenis, it would be the first year using them. Staff checked with the Bloomington Normal Sanitary District, that also uses Solenis, and found that they have had satisfactory results.

Solenis	FY 21-22 Cost	FY 22-23 Cost	% Change
Polymer K274	Did Not Bid	\$1.92/lb.	-3.5%
Polymer K279	Did Not Bid	\$1.92/lb.	-3.5%

Fiscal Impact: \$103,000 proposed in FY 22/23 budget is the total between the water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Recommendation/

Committee Discussion Summary: Staff recommends that the City Council award the bid for the purchase and delivery of Chlorine, Hydrofluosilicic Acid, and Ferric Chloride for FY 22/23 to Brenntag Mid-South at the unit price set forth in the Contract Documents and as noted on the bid tab shown above. Staff would also recommend that the City Council award the bid for Phosphate to Water Solutions Unlimited at the unit price set forth in the Contract Documents and as noted on the bid tab shown above. And finally, staff recommends award for the purchase of Polymer from Solenis at the unit price set forth in the Contract Documents and as noted on the bid tab shown above.

Action Requested: Approval