



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: Monday, September 9, 2024

Prepared By: Brian Rittenhouse – Public Works Director

Agenda Item: Discussion – Water Tower #2 Painting

Explanation: Staff contracted Dixon Engineering to assist with the Water Tower #2 Painting Project. They are considered the experts in their field and for that reason Staff recommended utilizing their expertise to build the design specifications and assist with the bidding process. Their working experience with different contractors over the years helps with the vetting process.

Staff was asked to investigate LC United's past work history. An internet search resulted in a fall incident in June of 2015. This incident resulted in an employee being injured and OSHA violations.

Staff was unable to gather any information on the claim of prevailing wage violations after reaching out to the Department of Labor, but not able to speak with anyone.

Staff reached out to Dixon Engineering for their opinion on what was discussed at the September 3rd Council Meeting.

"LC United has been prequalified with Dixon since 1995. They are a very experienced elevated tank painting contractor. There are no tank size restrictions with LC United, they have proven to be able to handle any size tank project and have show to have the capacity and experience to handle any project. I understand some safety concerns have been brought up about LC United. I have overseen projects with them and many other contractors both union and non-union. Elevated tank work is inherently dangerous and there have been occasional safety issues with all contractors, union and non-union alike. As part of submittals, contractors must submit their recent certifications for their spider cages, safety equipment, etc. and any recent safety training. I have not seen any issues with LC United or experienced any issues in my 5 years working with them at Dixon Engineering."

Dixon Engineering was hired by the City to provide their expertise and guidance on this project.

Companies that bid on the Water Tower #1 Painting 2019.

Seven Brothers Painting Inc.
Classic Protective Coatings
Maguire Iron

Staff's Recommendation: Staff's recommendation remains the same, to approve the bid award to LC United for the Water Tower #2 painting.

Action Requested: Council Direction