

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY MINUTES
January 23, 2007

Approved at the January 30, 2007, Board of Works meeting, as amended.

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana met in regular session in the Board of Works Room at City Hall on January 23, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. Present were Janet L. Broyles, Gilbert T. Satterly, and Mayor Mills, who presided.

Elevation in Rank: 1st Class Officer Jeffrey Decker to Specialist – Police

Police Chief Marvin said I request Board approval to elevate 1st Class Officer Jeff Decker to the rank of Specialist, effective January 28, 2007, his anniversary date. Officer Decker has maintained satisfactory evaluations, he exhibits good judgment, and is very meticulous in his work. He does a lot of extra things for the department as well. The biweekly salary for a Specialist is \$1,835.50, and that would be his pay rate, since he's assigned the day shift.

Ms. Broyles said I move that we approve the elevation of 1st Class Officer Jeffrey Decker to the rank of Specialist, effective January 28, 2007. His biweekly salary will be \$1,835.50. Motion was seconded by Mr. Satterly, and the vote was AYE.

Vehicle Purchase: Bloomington Ford, Inc. – Four 2007 Ford Crown Victoria Police Sedans – Police

Police Chief Marvin said I also request Board approval to purchase four new 2007 Ford Crown Victoria police sedans from Bloomington Ford, Inc. That was off the State spec bid. You see the QPA base price there and the options bring the total price to \$20,322 per car, for a total cost of \$81,288.

Mr. Satterly said and this was in our budget?

Police Chief Marvin said this was in the budget for '07.

Mr. Satterly said I move we approve the Police Department's request to purchase four new 2007 Ford Crown Victoria police sedans from Bloomington Ford. The base price is \$19,550 per unit, with the options an additional \$772, for a total price of \$20,322 per unit. Four units would cost \$81,288. Motion was seconded by Ms. Broyles, and the vote was AYE.

Contract: Greeley and Hansen, LLC – Construction Management for Western Interceptor – WWTU

Public Works Director Downey said I have for the Board's information and approval, if you so wish, a contract with Greeley and Hansen for construction management of the Western Interceptor, which we are already under construction. We had been using them for engineering design at the present time, and we'll take care of that if the Board approves this contract or it waits for Board approval next week. That would give you time to review it.

Ms. Broyles said I move we approve the agreement between the City and Greeley and Hansen for professional services on the Western Sanitary Sewer Interceptor, Division I. The estimated compensation is \$447,000. Motion was seconded by Mr. Satterly, and the vote was AYE.

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Bid Acceptance: Infrastructure Systems, Inc. – Barberry Heights Lift Station – WWTU

Public Works Director Downey said I also have for the Board a recommendation from Wessler & Associates on the Barberry Lift Station, the bids that we received last week. The lowest responsive bid is the base bid with Infrastructure Systems, Inc. for \$882,465, and it's Wessler's and my recommendation that you accept that bid. And we would consider only Alternate #1, which would go with higher lift station equipment, \$3,000, and we are not considering Alternate #2, the other type of boring system. We're going to go with the open trench on the base bid.

Mr. Satterly said I move we approve accepting the bid for the Barberry Heights Lift Station with Infrastructure Systems, Inc. from Orleans, Indiana. Base bid \$882,465.00 and also the Alternate #1.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said is that a deduct?

Mayor Mills said yes.

Mr. Satterly said it's in the minutes. Yes, Alternate #1 is item number 7, deduct \$3,000.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Broyles, and the vote was AYE.

[At the January 30, 2007, Board of Works meeting, a motion was approved to amend the bid acceptance to specify only the base bid of \$882,465 with Infrastructure Systems, Inc., to strike out approval of Alternate #1, and to have this action recorded in the minutes.]

Mr. Troy Freed [President, MidWest Trenchless Services] said we bid the project that you're recommending for award. We bid it as an alternate, to do trenchless technology. When you do the figures on that, there was substantial savings to your community, roughly around \$100,000, a little more actually, versus open cut and through there. Again, it was a solicited alternate, and I'm kind of curious as why it would be recommended to go with the other contract.

Public Works Director Downey said well, it's the first I've met you, but I'm going with my engineer's suggestion, and the response you gave to him evidently. I'm not that familiar with the pipe bursting system, and I am familiar with boring. There were some questions about the pipe bursting, and we only got two bids on the pipe bursting. The other two companies did not bid it at all, so that left some questions in our eyes as to if it was a savings or not.

Mr. Freed said well, I mean, the numbers speak for themselves. When you do the tabulation, if you look at the spreadsheet on there, the deduction was \$100,000 or more. Again, it was a solicited alternate. It's directional drilling or pipe bursting, so you could use either one. I believe that your community has done some directional drilling. Are you familiar with directional drilling yourself?

Public Works Director Downey said yes.

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Mr. Freed said okay. So we could directionally drill that also. We worked with the engineer on references. We have done this work quite a bit. We've gained some good references; in hearing feedback, he said they checked out, so I'm kind of curious at this point in time why. I understand that contractor did the last project here, but I'm kind of curious why you'd want to spend another \$100,000 versus not, and why if you wanted to give it to the contractor, why it was a bid. We have a lot of time invested in this project up to this point, so I'm just looking for an answer.

Public Works Director Downey said well, I would refer you back to our engineer that we hired to do the job.

Mr. Freed said okay.

City Engineer Buck said if I may, I think a lot of it stems back to the responses they gave to Wessler & Associates. This is so far as why they were able to bid it so low and compared to the other bids that we received. We received one other bid that was what we would consider to be near the engineer's estimate or competitive and responsive. And it's not so much that we're spending more money. This is the base bid. That's why we took this work as an alternate, because it was a change to the base method that we wanted to attempt to complete the project under. And we just don't feel comfortable, based on the responses that we got, that we could recommend Alternate #2.

Mr. Freed said may I ask what those responses you're not feeling comfortable with?

City Engineer Buck said I think some of the peripheral costs that we get in to. If there's things that are disturbed on the surface of the ground, and this is an existing neighborhood, we want to be very comfortable and confident with the method we go forward with the project, so we don't get into peripheral items that would create discrepancies about who would be responsible for fixing or repairing sidewalks, driveways, streets.

Mr. Joel Kruszynski [Owner, MidWest Trenchless Services] said that was in your bid. It specified that those were all inclusive in the pipe bursting or directional drilling price, so there shouldn't be any argument as to who's responsible.

Mr. Freed said when you do an open cut, if you open cut from A to B, you're opening up everything; your chance of going over contract is tremendous. With trenchless technology, we open up this and this; we're not—and maybe here—but we're not opening up the entire way, so it's less chance for change orders or extras. 99.9% of the time, with trenchless technology, we come in under contract, because we're not opening and exposing everything.

Mr. Kruszynski said we've been doing this type of work for 10 years. We've done hundreds of thousands of feet of directional drilling and pipe bursting. Our references all check out. There was nothing adverse there. We attempted to save the community over \$100,000, and I guess we just want to know why that it's not being considered.

Public Works Director Downey said Jon [Mr. Jonathan Borgers, Project Manager, Wessler & Associates].

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Mr. Borgers said just there were a couple items that came into our recommendation. One was, and maybe I misunderstood when we spoke, that I guess coming into this, you didn't have a set plan as to whether you were going to pipe burst or directional drill, and in that conversation, you made it sound like, you know, whichever method we use— I guess there was some indication that there may be some damage and the question was who was going to be responsible for that. That being said, there was also some concern—a lot of concerns—with the lift station as well. MidWest bid, the bid item there, they had \$405,000 in their bid for the installation of the lift station, and all the other contractors that we took bids were well over \$500,000, and there was some concern about that, you know, why they were so low on that.

Mr. Freed said to answer those questions again. When you have a unit price structure, you can put your money in different paths. The lift station project he's talking about, it's the max probably a week to put it in, depending on how you do it. There's some different tricks to it. Three days, you put a hole in, you set your wet well.

Public Works Director Downey said are you talking about out in the field, or an existing neighborhood in a lady's yard?

Mr. Freed said I have a PowerPoint presentation in my car that I could show you about 400 projects that I've done in residential areas, and the PR factors have been tremendous. Again, you keep the footprint very small. You don't want residents calling and complaining. You want them calling and saying, "Hey, that's great. Great job." So I'm very familiar with working with residents and with businesses and such.

Mr. Kruszynski said as far as the differences in our conversation between the directional drilling work versus pipe bursting, whichever methodology we chose to use there, it was going to take some investigation on our part, to determine which way was going to be best, the least destructive. That's what we were trying to convey to him. If the sanitary leads were laying on top of the existing force main, then it's probably not going to be a good idea for us to pipe burst it, because it's going to damage one of those leads. So then we would probably switch over to directional boring.

Mr. Freed said where the drill didn't come close. That's why, you know, again, that's what I explained to him. It wasn't called out on the profile or the depth of the existing force main. Some investigation would have to come. I mean, there's many projects I go on—the fact is when you put anything on paper, but when you actually get out in the field and you start investigating, things change. So maybe we'd do some pipe bursting and some directional. You know, there's going to be some open cut on the project. So it's just different tools in the toolbox that you have to pull out at the time.

Mr. Kruszynski said and, again, like I said, all of those items were inclusive in the bid, so there shouldn't be—you know, in our unit pricing, it spells out that, you know, any surface upheaval was our responsibility. So there shouldn't be any discussion as to who's going to be responsible for that.

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Public Works Director Downey said well, we're basing ours on the base bid, not the Alternate #2.

Mayor Mills said okay. Thank you, gentlemen. Is there anyone else who has anything to bring to the Board this morning?

There was no further discussion.

Claims

Mayor Mills moved to approve the claims as submitted in five dockets in the following amounts:

Accounts Payable	\$99,562.87
Accounts Payable	\$2,113.73
Accounts Payable	\$109,421.17
Payroll	\$10,572.01
Payroll	\$280,773.25

Motion was seconded by Mr. Satterly, and the vote was AYE.

Minutes

Mr. Satterly said I move we approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of January 16, 2007, as distributed. Motion was seconded by Ms. Broyles, and the vote was AYE.

Adjournment

There being no further business at this time, Ms. Broyles moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Mr. Satterly, and the vote was AYE.