



Item: Police Department Emergency Generator, O. F. 1529.4
From: Great Falls Police Department
Initiated By: Captain Tim Shanks
Presented By: Chief Dave Bowen
Action Requested: Consider Bids and Approve Contract

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission award a contract in the amount of \$161,274 to United Electric, LLC of Great Falls for the Police Department Emergency Generator, O. F. 1529.4, and authorize the City Manager to execute the construction contract documents.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the City Commission award a construction contract for the emergency generator to United Electric, LLC of Great Falls for \$161,274.

Background:

Due to significant power outage issues in 2011 and their toll on department computer systems, software and servers, as well as the 911 center, GPD PC Consulting Engineers (GPD) was asked to monitor the power load of the police department building for a week. It was determined that during peak demand on the emergency systems, the existing generators were undersized. Reliability of the existing generators and UPS system were also in doubt.

On February 21, 2012, the City Commission approved a Professional Services Agreement with GPD to provide engineering services for the emergency generator replacement.

Purpose:

There is a dire need for a generator which will provide sufficient power to the entire police department during planned or unplanned power outages. The current generators are undersized and not sufficient to power the entire building during power outages.

Significant Impacts:

Power outages are not an everyday occurrence, but when they happen, they take their toll on the phone system, computer systems, software and servers, as well as the building. Non-essential equipment has to be powered down since the current generators cannot carry the required load. The generators are nearly 40 years old and of questionable reliability. Replacement parts are hard to locate when there is a failure and repairs are needed.

Workload Impacts:

GPD designed the project and will perform construction inspection of the contract. City engineering staff assisted with evaluation and will administer the contract.

Project Work Scope:

This project will procure and install a new generator; extend electrical wiring; procure and install an upgraded UPS (Uninterruptable Power Supply); and remove the existing generators. The work will be substantially completed within 120 calendar days after issuance of the notice to proceed.

Evaluation and Selection Process:

The specifications were advertised two times in the Great Falls Tribune, and placed on the City of Great Falls website. The bids were opened on April 18, 2012, with five bidders responding. The bids ranged from \$161,274 to \$216,944.

Conclusion:

The bid by United Electric, LLC of Great Falls meets specifications for the police department emergency generator.

Concurrences:

GPD and engineering staff have reviewed the bids and recommend approval of the contract.

Fiscal Impact:

The project will be funded through the police department's Safety Services Fund.

Alternatives:

The City Commission can reject the bid award for the emergency generator.

Attachments/Exhibits:

Bid tabulation.

