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MAYOR

TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD

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ENGINEERING DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alex Trujillo, Director of Public Works

FROM: Kazi Reza, Civil Engineer

COPY: Douglas R. Wilson, P.E., Town Engineer
Paul O'Sullivan, Grants Manager
Sara Ross, Housing Planning Analyst
Michelle Enman, Purchasing Agent

DATE: April 3, 2024

RE: 1165-1195 Main Street Sidewalk Replacement (Bid 24-19)
Bid Recommendation

On January 30, 2024, the above-referenced project was advertised for bid. The project includes replacement of the curb and sidewalk with decorative stamped sidewalk from the corner of Main Street and Orchard Street up to the northeasterly property line of 1195 Main Street. The work also involves replacement of utility valves and handholds, repainting of line striping and preparation of a planting space for a tree. On March 5, 2024 the Purchasing Agent opened bids and six (6) bids were received:

Contractor	Bid Amount	Notes
Workers LLC Norwich, CT	\$75,774.00	<i>Nonresponsive</i>
ECF Construction LLC Granby, MA	\$76,630.00	<i>Not recommended</i>
Earth Moving Solutions LLC Feeding Hills, MA	\$115,062.74	<i>Corrected bid total</i>
Southern Industries Corporation Terry Town, NY	\$115,676.25	
A&J Construction Brookfield, MA	\$146,775.00	
B&W Landscaping and Paving Oakdale, CT	\$167,370.00	

Workers LLC failed to acknowledge the first addendum, which added a new bid item to the bid proposal form. Workers LLC's bid has, therefore, been determined to be nonresponsive. Required bid documents (and attachments) were received from all other bidders.

Earth Moving Solutions bid total was not calculated correctly on their bid proposal form. The corrected bid total, using their bid unit prices, is listed in the table. The correction does not change their ranking.

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The bid submitted by ECF Constructions is \$38,432.74 lower (33% lower) than the bid by Earth Moving Solutions and \$21,175.00 lower (22% lower) than the engineer's estimate. The unit prices indicate unbalanced bidding on ECF Construction's bid as some items are significantly lower than both the engineer's estimate and other bidders' unit prices. For example, the concrete sidewalk unit price is 44% lower than the other bidders' average unit price. Similarly, the unit price to replace utility boxes is also 41% lower than the other bidders' average unit price.

Reference checks for ECF Constructions raised concerns about their ability to meet specifications including but not limited to the following:

- Not providing proper supervision
- Difficulties and delays with submittals
- Poor communication
- Poor quality control on administrative work

ECF Construction previously completed a sidewalk project for the Town where they had multiple instances of delayed submittals and incorrect submissions of payroll that required multiple phone calls and emails to correct. They completely lacked an acceptable invoicing procedure, which required the Town to prepare invoices for them. They generally had an unacceptable level of errors and a lack of document control.

Based on an evaluation of the ECF Construction bid, reference checks, and our own experience with the company, we do not recommend award to ECF Construction.

The bid submitted by Earth Moving Solutions is \$115,055.70 and their unit prices and final bid value are very close to the engineer's estimate. They are only \$613 lower than the next bidder, indicating that the pricing is appropriate and competitive. There were no significant unbalanced items noted in their bid and their unit prices were similar to their competitors. The reference checks for Earth Moving Solutions were very positive about the quality of their work, their timeliness on submittals and their presence on the job sites. There were no complaints on supervision or unnecessary change orders. They were also noted to have experience working on jobs where federal wage rates prevailed.

The Engineering Division recommends that the Town award 1165-1195 Main Street Sidewalk Replacement (Bid 24-19) to Earth Moving Solutions LLC, in the amount of \$115,062.74

>> If you would like to proceed with the award to Earth Moving Solutions LLC, please schedule a Committee of Award for the project.