

# MINUTES

## 2014 CONTRACTOR/DEVELOPER/ENGINEERS MEETING

February 5, 2014

8:00 – 11:00 MEETING

I. Opening Remarks by Rob Phillips, City Engineer

Rob thanked all for their attendance. He went on to say that “your input is more valuable than you think”.

The 2014 budget has been posted on line.

Johnson Street is a Federal project and will be bid in May

II. Affirmative Action

Trucker/Broker meeting minutes are on-line.

A consulting company will begin a disparity study next month. Purpose is to determine if there is a historical bias against women minority or disadvantaged businesses. Contractors asked to help in order to get best quality data.

The Affirmative Action plans now have some auto-fill of data.

Articles of Agreement, which need to be part of subcontract, will now be more accessible.

Question as to whether General contractor could provide standard contract per sub by year rather than every contract. **Norman Davis will provide a response.**

III. Comments by City Water Utility

Specification changes were highlighted and a summary provided (see attached). Format changes make City Specs match DOT specifications format. This helps staff reduce rewrites. Items of note were 702.4, 703.2 (cut-ins vs taps), 703.9, 703.14, and 704.36.

No changes to pre-priced bid items. Request made to increase Abandon Valve Box from \$50 to \$150. **Water Utility will consider.**

E Johnson Street will not use thrust blocks.

Several water main projects planned, including a new well on Sherman (bids due 3/7).

Pipe lining will continue.

Request made to add Water projects to Upcoming Project list.

IV. Comments by City Traffic Engineering

No “one calls” until the landscaping is complete starting in 2014.

Contractors required to call TE to have street signs removed.

V. Comments by Parks Department

Splash Pad, Landscaping, and Tennis/Basketball Resurfacing contracts are now out. Upcoming projects include: Sherman and Marston Bridges in Tenney Park, redo of six playgrounds, and Central Park Skate Park. Two playground contracts will come out later in the season.

VI. 2014 Standard Specifications

Change notices sent by email and are currently available on line.

VII. Bid Express Sign Tool

This change must be complete by Friday February 14, 2014 in order to bid. Installation is not complicated and does not take very long.

VIII. Broker/Trucker Workshop Follow Up

Affirmative Action deemed this workshop a success.

An evaluation form has been sent out along with information from the workshop. Information is also on line.

IX. Certified Wisconsin Businesses

All General Contractors are to be certified with the State of WI in order to be awarded a contract. This must be complete prior to the contract being awarded at the Board of Public Works.

X. Contractor/Developer/Engineer Comments

Request to revise the Prevailing Wage Affidavits. These forms can be requested earlier if contractors don't have to fill in the amount paid/owed. This will help close out projects easier, especially with truckers. **If Committed Cost Status Report is used then the dollar amount can be removed from the Prevailing Wage Affidavits.**

**The Committed Cost Status report has the same information, but not everyone uses. This report was deemed preferable, as it then would allow more time for the general to get affidavits. Affirmative Action would ideally like to receive the report monthly, but needs it at 50%, 90%, and at contract completion.**

SBE goals: request to have SBE goal lowered if work that SBE was going to perform is removed from the contract. **Norman Davis said OK if documented.**

Request to keep AA plans on file for the calendar year so general contractors don't have to include in every sub contract. **Norman Davis to review.**

Request made to change the "MORE" button in Bid Express to something more descriptive in the Proposal section. The import option found there is not readily apparent. **City Engineering will follow up.**

There was also some issue with having to re-enter unit prices once an addendum is issued when using the import option. Contractors have found that they need to enter as many numbers as possible before the Wednesday deadline to avoid this. **City Eng. will check on this.**

The goal for % women working on the contract was discussed. General contractor would prefer looking at company % instead. It is not good practice to move a person from job to job; it is better to keep them with a mentor on a project as part of a crew.

Norman said he needed more information first as he is seeing many 0% on contracts and unions report they are not getting requests for women and minorities from contractors. Contractors need to document/report that the goals are not attainable. Some contractors are not reporting any information.

Comment made that not all unions will dispatch women and minorities.

Some unions are not taking apprentices as journey workers are not getting work.

Alternatives to unions listed: START, Construct U, Trans, & Big Step.

**AA was requested to get information on availability of women in Dane County for various trades.**

After lengthy discussion a subcommittee of the Affirmative Action Commission was suggested. This would also need Board of Public Works approval. This could possibly include contractors, AA staff, Eng staff and unions. **Rob Phillips and Norman Davis to discuss.**

Contractors are still waiting for response to Traffic Engineering stamp of approval on Traffic Control Plan request from last meeting. **Response by TE.**

Question raised as to why temporary tape is sometimes a separate bid item and other times it is a lump sum. Consistent bidding preferred. **TE to respond.**

The next meeting will be May 14, 2014 in the Engineering Training Room at 8:00 am.

#### 2014 Meeting Dates

May 14

August 6

November 5