



Item: Final Payment – 1st Avenue North / 5th Avenue South Main Replacements, O. F. 1570

From: Engineering Division

Initiated By: Public Works Department

Presented By: Jim Rearden, Public Works Director

Action Requested: Approve Final Pay Request

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

"I move the City Commission approve Final Payment for the 1st Avenue North and 5th Avenue South Water Main Replacements, O. F. 1570, in the amount of \$51,854.49 to United Materials of Great Falls, Inc., and \$523.78 to the State Miscellaneous Tax Fund and authorize the City Manager to make the payments."

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

Staff Recommendation: Approve final payment request.

Background:

Significant Impacts

This project replaced portions of the water system located in 1st Avenue North, 5th Avenue South and 6th Avenue North. Most of these water mains were installed in the 1890's through the 1920's, except along 1st Avenue North which was installed in 1988.

Citizen Participation

This project was completed in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), using Federal Stimulus Funds administered through DEQ for financing.

Workload Impacts

City engineering staff designed the project, performed construction inspection, and contract administration duties. Utilities Division personnel operated valves, provided locates, taps, and tests for water purity. Fiscal Services worked with DEQ and financial organizations to get Federal Stimulus Funds set in place and processed payments for this project.

Purpose

The project replaced water mains that have been failing and have damaged roadways and disrupted water service to local residences and businesses. The breaks are primarily due to corrosive soils, age, and the type of pipe material used.

Project Work Scope

This project replaced 5,895 lineal feet of 6-, 8- and 12-inch water main, 10 fire hydrants and 114 water service connections.

The mains are located in 1st Avenue North from 5th Street to 14th Street; 12th Street from 1st Avenue North to 2nd Avenue North; 5th Avenue South from 6th Street to 9th Street; and 6th Avenue North from 23rd Street to 24th Street.

Evaluation and Selection Process

The City accepted five bids for this project on March 25, 2009 and the City Commission awarded the contract to the low bidder, United Materials of Great Falls, Inc., on April 7, 2009 in the amount of \$736,695.00.

Conclusion

City staff has verified that United Materials has completed all work and punch list items in accordance with the plans and contract. The City can accept the project and execute the Final Payment. The project was completed within the contract time. The two year warranty period started at the time of substantial completion which was July 23, 2009.

Concurrences:

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact:

Replacement of these mains will save on maintenance due to man hours and resources necessary for repairs to broken water mains, streets, and surrounding property (both private and public).

The final project cost is \$665,019.44, which is \$71,675.56 under the amount awarded and approved. There are a few factors which contributed to the lower final contract amount such as lack of copper service replacement, soil replacement due to petroleum contamination and very little miscellaneous work.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided Federal Stimulus funds to State agencies. These funds are administered by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and are distributed as a grant and low interest loan. The City of Great Falls received \$750,000 of Federal Stimulus funds for this project of which \$416,300 is a grant amount and \$333,700 is a low interest loan (1.75%).

This project is paid for by using the entire grant amount of \$416,300 plus \$248,719.44 of the loan amount. The remaining balance of loan fund will be used on the next water main replacement project scheduled to start in October, 2009.

Alternatives:

The City Commission could vote to deny final payment.

Attachments/Exhibits:

1. Application for Final Payment is attached. (Not available online; on file in City Clerk's Office.)