

Village of Goodfield
Water and Sewer Committee Meeting
June 17, 2021 via Zoom 6:00p.m.

Chairman Roger Mullins called the meeting to order at 6:06p.m. Present were Engineer Duane Yockey, Attorney Michael D Gifford, PWA Josh Nohl, Terry Nohl and Daryl Wilkendorf.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss West Martin Drive Water main Loop bids.

Engineer Yockey reviewed the bids the Village received for the West Martin Drive Water main Loop. Engineer's Estimate was \$90,000.00. Low bid by Meuser Construction was \$44,375.80, second lowest bid from Hoerr Construction was \$75,603.00 and 3rd lowest bid from GA Rich was \$80,504.00. The Village had concern with Meuser bid being quite low and wanted to investigate it based upon concern of past experience with this contractor. Engineer Yockey read an email from PWA Nohl voicing those concerns.

Engineer Yockey asked one of his engineers that was involved in past experience with the Village and this contractor to voice any concerns he would have. The engineers concerns were:

- Did not show up every day
- Only worked a few hrs./day
- Left construction site is disarray
- Pavement fixed by another contractor
- Did not complete job – Village did grading

The engineer believes it would be in the best interest of the Village to use the next low bid.

Engineer Yockey contacted 3 references given to him by Mr. Meuser.

First contact:

- Municipal Public Works- said Meuser construction is ok for small projects, not large projects.
- Said they use old equipment.

Second contact:

- An Engineer said Meuser Construction is capable, but you need to hold his hand...

Third contact:

- Water/Sewer Superintendent said Meuser did 3 blocks of PVC water main. Work was complete, but took a long time. He dealt with a lot of complaints because project was left is disarray. The Superintendent felt like he had to be there all the time.

Engineer Yockey voiced his concern that Meuser is from Paxton IL, travel time takes a while, old equipment used, it is deep where it's hooking onto the main, safety concerns with one man working.

Attorney Gifford said if the Village chooses to do so they can reject lowest bid and go to next responsible bidder. The Bid Package has language that any and all bids can be rejected. There is case law to support this. In regards to history and reputation the Village has responsibility to choose lowest responsible bidder. Attorney Gifford affirmed that between PWA Nohl's past experience with Meuser and Engineer Yockey's inquiries the Village is on firm legal ground to reject the bid.

Based on Village's prior experience on the job with Meuser Construction and the Village Engineer's knowledge of the complexity of the job and Meuser Construction's reputation it is the sentiment of the committee to reject Meuser Construction's bid and accept the next lowest bid.

A performance bond for the amount of the project and a payment bond to pay subcontractors is required for this project. A performance bond guarantees project to bid amount.

Engineer Yockey stated we have not gotten any pressure from other bidders to reject the low bid.

Attorney Gifford stated there is a standard of care. You do not do this type of project with a one man crew.

Trustee Mullins voiced concerns that this project is in a very visible spot@ the intersection with all the work going on there.

Engineer again voiced his concerns regarding the deep water main on the E side of Rte. 117 and the slowness of the contractor in front of VIVO where construction is going on.

Trustee Wilkendorf asked if contract has a start and stop date. Engineer Yockey commented the contract has a finish date – 60 days from the Notice to Proceed.

Motion was made by Nohl, seconded by Mullins to recommend that the Board consider that the lowest bidder, Meuser Construction, is not responsible and recommends awarding bid to the second lowest bidder, Hoerr Construction. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Wilkendorf – no and Mullins – yes. Motion carried.

Engineer Yockey commented that another meeting he would like to discuss Chapter 12 of the Village Code.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Nohl, seconded by Wilkendorf. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Wilkendorf – yes and Mullins – yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:35p.m.

Roger Mullins, Chairman