



APPROVED 2/14/24

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
January 24, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Chair Watson called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Carlos Watson; Elly Claus-McGahan; Anita Gallagher; William Bridges

Excused: John O'Loughlin

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Mr. Watson moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Mr. Bridges. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Comments by the Public

Regular Agenda

C-1 Resolution U-11434 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:

1. Increase contract to Tyndale Enterprises, Inc., for the arc-related, flame-resistant clothing program (\$323,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$823,000, plus applicable taxes [Erica Pierce, Sr. Business Service Analyst];
2. Increase contract to Stella-Jones Corporation for transmission poles between 65 and 110 feet (\$700,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$1,200,000, plus applicable taxes) [Erica Pierce, Sr. Business Service Analyst];
3. Increase contract to Stella-Jones Corporation for distribution poles between 35 feet and 60 feet (\$2,865,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$7,650,000, plus applicable taxes) [Erica Pierce, Sr. Business Service Analyst];
4. Increase contract to NAES Power Contractors, Inc., for additional labor and supervision to perform maintenance repairs, renovations, and other mutually agreed upon work at Tacoma Power facilities (\$1,500,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$3,750,000, plus applicable taxes) [Tony Daniels, Sr. Engineering Project Manager];
5. Increase and extend contract to Water Management Laboratories, Inc., for bacteriological testing (\$431,200, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$1,396,627.50, plus applicable taxes) [Kim DeFolo, Principal Engineer];
6. Award contract to Coast Rail, Inc., for installation of four railroad switch turnouts and one rail crossover, and other associated track renewals (\$840,298, plus applicable taxes) [Kyle Kellem, Roadmaster].

Mr. Bridges moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan.

In response to a Board inquiry about sustainability in contracting, Erica Pierce, Sr. Business Service Analyst, provided the following information. For the first item on the general purchasing resolution, there is no sustainability requirement in the specification. As for the T&D pole contracts, they were solicited as Requests for Bids and those don't have sustainability incorporated as they're low-price wins only. The original pole contract was awarded to Bell Lumber; Stella Jones is a back-up contractor. In 2023, supply chain constraints meant increased lead times and engaging Stella Jones. Pricing is adjusted semi-annually based on the PPI. The contract isn't needed at this time, but there is awareness from the pole inspection program that more will be needed, and Bell Lumber may need assistance in filling the need. Disposal is by landfill and cannot be surplussed due to cost and the fact that poles are chemically treated. The T&D asset group completed a study on pole species and that analysis is forthcoming. Stella Jones is familiar with TPU due to past contracts and is the only vendor for distribution poles. Supply chain issues may not be evident at the time of vendor request and contract execution.

In response to a Board inquiry on item number five, Kim DeFolo, Principal Engineer, clarified that the contract extension is for five years and the contract dates to 2007. Sole source waivers are extended in three-year intervals; staff is asking for an exception of five years at this time.

In response to a Board request for railroad turnouts and crossovers, Kyle Kellem, Roadmaster, shared that turnovers are where two tracks converge and crossovers get trains from one track to another. The project should be done mid-summer.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

C-2 Resolution U-11435 – Authorize Tacoma Water to participate in the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Works, Street Initiative Package Number 35 Project to replace approximately 2,000 feet of 8-inch and 6-inch water main in North Tacoma.

Mr. Bridges moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan.

Troy Saghafi, Professional Engineer, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Water requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Public Works, Street Initiative Package Number 35 project. Tacoma Water is partnering with Public Works to reconstruct the existing roadway and replace approximately 2,000 feet of existing water main, constructed circa 1948. The project will reconstruct/replace 8-inch and 6-inch water mains along N. 48th Street, between N. Mullen and N. Gove Street, N. Cheyenne Street, between N. Gove Street and N. 46th Street, and N. Gove Street, between N. 46th Street and N. 48th Street. The overall project will upgrade the existing roadway, upgrade underground facilities, and bring ramps into ADA compliance. The total cost for the project is \$632,758.83, plus a 15 percent contingency, for a cumulative total of \$727,672.65. Tacoma Water believes it is in the best interests of the utility to include the replacement work in this project contract because it will improve overall project coordination, minimize traffic impacts through consolidation of the work under a single project, and reduce overall project costs.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

H. Reports of the Director

There were no reports of the Director

I. Final Comments by the Board

Board Member Claus-McGahan expressed interest in city-wide sustainability issues.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m. until Wednesday, February 14, 2024, for a study session at 3:00 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:



Carlos Watson, Chair



William Bridges