

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
AUTHORITY MEETING**

Minutes of Township Authority Meeting held November 2, 2009

An administrative meeting of the Lower Paxton Township Authority was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman William B. Hawk on the above date in the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Authority members present in addition to Mr. Hawk were: William C. Seeds, Sr., Gary A. Crissman, and David B. Blain. Also in attendance were: George Wolfe, Township Manager, and Steven Stine, Authority Solicitor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Seeds led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2009, and October 6, 2009 Authority meetings. Mr. Blain seconded the motion, and a unanimous vote followed.

Public Comment

No comments were presented.

Board Member's Comments

No comments were presented.

New Business

Action on bids for the Linglestown Road Pumping Station

Mr. Wolfe explained that the Authority received a large number of bids for the electrical work and the general contract work for the Linglestown Road Pumping Station. He noted that the total lowest responsible bid for Contract One, for general construction was submitted by PSI Pumping Solution, Inc., in the amount of \$249,870. He noted for Contract Two, the electrical work, the lowest bid was submitted by Robert P. Lepley Electrical Contractors in the amount of \$64,262.00. He noted that the total for the two bids is \$314,132. He explained that seven bids for the general contractor work and nine bids for the electrical contract work were submitted,

with the bids being very closely group in amounts. He noted that all the bids were significantly more than the engineer's estimate, and the engineer provided the Board members for the reason that they were off on their estimate in their memorandum. He noted that staff has met with the engineer and it was noted that the engineer made a major error in their estimate. He noted since all the bids came in very close, the engineer is comfortable with the bids received. He noted that staff and the engineer recommend that contracts be awarded to PSI Pumping Solution, Inc. for Contract One and Robert P. Lepley Electrical Contractors for Contract Two.

Mr. Crissman questioned if both vendors met the specifications for the request for proposals. Mr. Wolfe answered yes.

Mr. Crissman questioned if references have been checked for both contractors. Mr. Wolfe answered that CET is confident that both contractors would provide quality service. He noted that the Township has worked with Robert P. Lepley Electrical Contractors in the past.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve the bids for the Linglestown Pumping Station for Contract One to PSI Pumping Solution, Inc., in the amount of \$249,870, and for Contract Two to Robert P. Lepley Electrical Contractors for \$64,262, with the following three conditions: 1) Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection approval of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Firm solicitation efforts for the project; 2) PennVest issuance of the "Letter of No Prejudice" to allow initiation of the work prior to closing of the PennVest loan; and 3) Approval of the bid documents and bid bonds by the Township solicitor. Mr. Blain seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a roll call vote: Mr. Blain, aye; Mr. Crissman, aye; Mr. Seeds, aye; and Mr. Hawk, aye.

Action on bids for the AR-A Sanitary Sewer Replacement

Mr. Wolfe noted that N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. has submitted a bid in the amount of \$3,635,344 to undertake the Asylum Run A Sanitary Sewer Mini-basin project. He explained that the project includes the replacement of a sewer main under I-83. He noted that the Township received nine bids in total and the engineer's estimate for this project was \$4.1 million with half of the bids coming in at or under the engineer's estimate. He noted that the bids were closely group with a low of \$3.6 million to a high of \$4.8 million.

Mr. Wolfe noted that staff's recommendation is to award that bid and base bid to N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. He noted that the alternate bid provides for pipe bursting under I-83 as opposed to the base bid which included boring under I-83. He noted to pipe burst the project, the price of the contract would decrease to \$3,395,755.

Mr. Wolfe noted that staff requests that the bid be awarded, on a conditional basis, because after considerable discussion on pipe bursting as opposed to boring, it was determined that pipe bursting may not be successful if the existing sanitary sewer main is encased in concrete. He noted that the plans do not show this and it is unknown what occurred when the interstate highway was built, and the sanitary sewer line was covered over. He noted that staff would recommend the Board conditionally accept the bid from N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc., with pipe bursting. He noted that the Authority staff will dig two test pits, one on each side of I-83, to determine if the pipe is encased in concrete. He noted if it is found that it is not in concrete, the Authority would proceed with the pipe bursting contract, however, if the pipe is encased in concrete, then the bid for boring process, at the increase amount, would be awarded. He noted, regardless of the process, N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. is the lowest bidder, and the project is complete for award conditioned on the seven listed comments.

Mr. Crissman questioned if the contractor met all the requirements for the bid specifications. Mr. Wolfe answered yes.

Mr. Crissman questioned if staff feels comfortable with the contractor. Mr. Wolfe answered that, given the size of the contract; the Authority is receiving many bids from contractors that it has never worked with before. He noted that the Authority does not have direct experience with N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc., but they are a large firm and have a good reputation. Mr. Wolfe noted that the bid documents for the PennVest projects are very large and very cumbersome.

Mr. Crissman questioned if the contractor clearly understand the ramification of the differences between the boring and pipe bursting processes and awards as a result of both processes. Mr. Wolfe answered that a representative from the contractor would be present when the test pits are drilled. He noted that staff has the right to choose the process for the project, and the contractor would complete the work using either option.

Mr. Seeds questioned if the Authority would dig the pit to determine what needs to be done. Mr. Wolfe answered yes. Mr. Seeds noted, currently, a 10-inch pipe exists under the interstate, and he stated that it is amazing that the contractor could burst a 10-inch pipe and then replace it with a 12-in pipe.

Mr. Seeds questioned what is wrong with the current sewer main line. Mr. Wolfe answered that there are sags in the line and it does not have the carrying capacity needed. Mr. Seeds noted that he read that even if a new pipe is installed, a sag may remain. Mr. Wolfe noted that the increased capacity would eliminate the hydraulic condition.

Mr. Blain noted that he reviewed N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. website and it notes that they provide much municipal work for road construction, sanitary sewer work, and water mains. Mr. Seeds questioned where the firm was headquartered. Mr. Blain answered that they are located in New Jersey. Mr. Wolfe noted that they are a qualified bidder.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve the bids for the AR-A Sanitary Sewer Replacement to N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. with the base bid of \$3,635,344, with the option of this bid or the bid to include pipe bursting in the amount of \$3,395,755, to include the following seven conditions: 1) Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection approval of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Firm solicitation efforts for the project; 2) DEP approval of the General and Part II Permits; 3) Dauphin County Conservation District's approval of the Erosion and Sedimentation Plan and Stormwater permit; 4) PENNDOT issuance of a Highway Occupancy Permit for Elmerton Avenue and Colonial Road; 5) Acquisition of the remaining easements associated with this project; 6) Approval of the bid documents and bid bonds by the Township solicitor; and 7) PennVest issuance of the "Letter of No Prejudice" 9 which is only needed if the contractor desires to initiate construction prior to closing of the PennVest Loan). He noted that the final bid is to be determined after the drilling process is completed. Mr. Blain seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a roll call vote: Mr. Blain, aye; Mr. Crissman, aye; Mr. Seeds, aye; and Mr. Hawk, aye.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Crissman seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Heberle
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Authority Secretary
Gary A. Crissman