

## Department of Public Works

City Hall  
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John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Commissioner of Public Works

Ron J. Pritzlaff, P.E.  
Assistant Commissioner of Public Works

Ara P. Molitor, P.E.  
City Engineer

July 1, 2024

Alder. Mollie Jones, Chairperson  
Public Works and Services Committee  
Racine, WI

Re: Waive Formal Bidding for reconstructing the floor and internal drainage of the solid waste building

Dear Alder Jones:

Staff is requesting that formal bidding procedures be waived for the reconstruction of the floor and internal drainage system of the solid waste building.

It was recently discovered that there are several voids underneath the floor slab of the south portion of the solid waste building. Further inspection determined that the building – a 1940's vintage grocery store - had a basement that was not filled in appropriately at some point in the past. Additional inspection determined that the floor drains were not connected, thus contributing to the problem. As a result, DPW cannot park its solid waste vehicles in the building until these items are appropriately dealt with.

A formal bidding procedure would result in a project completion well into late fall or early winter. When the outside temperature is freezing or below, the solid waste vehicles have to be parked indoors or they will freeze. Additionally, if any trucks need to be left full overnight, it would be virtually impossible to get the refuse out of them as it will all have frozen (if left outside). Consequently, the work needs to be done quickly.

Staff requests that DPW be approved to waive formal bidding on the project such that work can be completed expediently with no disruption to municipal solid waste collection and disposal.

The work on this project includes removing the existing slab, excavating existing material and replacing with structural fill, installing new drains that connect to the sanitary system, and finally, pouring a new, 10-inch thick concrete slab.

Bids for the Central Heating Plant were received on March 6, 2024 in the amount of \$2,084,330. This project was not awarded because the bids were excessively over the budget of \$800,000. Thus, although encumbered, the proposed solid waste building project would allocate \$300,000 of the original \$800,000 for the work.

The estimated cost of this work is \$300,000. Funding to defray the cost of this ia available in Org-Obj 45040-57200 Central Heating Plant.

Sincerely,

Ron J. Pritzlaff, P.E.  
Assistant Commissioner of Public Works

Cc: Mayor Cory Mason  
Paul Jim Sullivan  
Kathleen Fischer  
John Rooney