

NO: R013

COUNCIL DATE: January 25, 2010

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **January 21, 2010**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering**

FILE: **0520-30PQ
1220-50-01-10**

SUBJECT: **Pre-Qualification of Contractors for Construction of Dyke and In-Creek Works**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Engineering Department recommends that Council:

1. add the following contractors to “pre-qualified contractors” list for bidding on the following types of work:
 - (a) **City Dyke Projects in 2010**
 - GCL Contracting and Excavating Ltd.
 - (b) **City In-Creek Construction Projects in 2010**
 - Terra Erosion Control Ltd.
 - BEL Contracting
 - Clearwater Contracting Ltd.; and
2. authorize staff to generate a new list of pre-qualified contractors for construction works to be constructed between 2011 and 2013.

BACKGROUND

In 1999, the City adopted the approach of pre-qualifying contractors for dyke construction and environmentally sensitive in-stream works. Since that time, the City has been inviting only these pre-qualified contractors to bid on dyke and in-stream works. The objective is to have experienced contractors with high standards of workmanship carry out environmentally sensitive projects. Every three years, the City has gone through a process to re-establish the list of pre-qualified contractors. This includes advertisements inviting contractors to submit their qualifications for evaluation. Contractors who apply are screened, and if appropriate, are put on the “pre-qualified contractor” list. The process was last completed in 2008. Additions to the list are made periodically, for contractors that are new, did not submit previously, or have improved their qualifications.

The program has been a success, as reflected by the competitive bids, innovative construction approaches and minimal claims. This approach also minimizes potential for environmental impacts and helps meet all the requirements set by the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

DISCUSSION

The “pre-qualified contractors” list developed in 2008 includes the following contractors:

(a) City Dyke Construction Projects in 2008 to 2010

- Matcon Civil Constructors Inc.
- B&B Contracting Ltd.
- Delta Aggregates Ltd.
- Double M Excavating Ltd.
- Progressive Contracting Ltd.
- Mission Contractors Ltd.
- Atlantic Contractors Ltd.

(b) City In-Creek Construction Projects in 2008 to 2010

- Matcon Civil Constructors Inc.
- B&B Contracting Ltd.
- Delta Aggregates Ltd.
- Double M Excavating Ltd.
- Progressive Contracting Ltd.
- Mission Contractors Ltd.
- Atlantic Contractors Ltd.
- TYBO Contracting Ltd.
- J.S. Ferguson Contracting Ltd.
- Merletti Construction (1999) Ltd.
- Mutual Construction (2000) Ltd.

The contractors on these lists were not asked to resubmit qualifications. Contractors who were interested in being added to the list were invited to submit their qualifications for evaluation.

The objective was to add qualified contractors that are new, previously did not submit, or have improved their qualifications. The Engineering Department advertised on December 17, 2009 an invitation to contractors to submit a Statement of Qualifications for the above-referenced categories of work. A package outlining the projects and the skills necessary to complete the work was made available to the contractors. A total of 16 contractors submitted a statement of qualifications for consideration by the City.

The approved 2010 list will be used for tendering lowland dyke construction projects and in-creek works in 2010. Both types of work involve creek banks reinstatement, installation of structures, and placement of compacted fill in environmentally sensitive areas. However, depending upon the expertise and size of the firm, contractors may qualify for only the dyke work or creek-bank work or both.

In 2011, the pre-qualification process will be re-initiated with all contractors, including those on the current pre-qualified contractors list, being re-evaluated.

EVALUATION

The statements of qualifications submitted by contractors were evaluated in the following categories:

- General company information;
- Experience in dyke construction and in-creek work;
- Availability of suitable equipment;
- The qualifications of personnel; and
- References from past projects.

A number of criteria were identified and a scoring system was utilized to rank each of the contractors. Based on that evaluation, GCL Contracting and Excavating Ltd. has qualified to tender for upcoming dyke projects; and

- Terra Erosion Control Ltd.;
- BEL Contracting; and
- Clearwater Contracting Ltd.

have qualified for the construction of in-creek works.

The 12 contractors who applied but were not added to the lists lacked experience in carrying out work of this nature.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The pre-qualification of contractors for dyke and in-creek works is consistent with the Sustainability Charter by supporting high quality work in environmentally sensitive areas. In particular, pre-qualification supports the Charter Scope actions related to:

- EN12: Enhancement and Protection of Natural Areas, Fish Habitat and Wildlife Habitat.

CONCLUSION

Since adoption of the process in 1999, the pre-qualification of contractors for dyke and in-creek construction projects has resulted in high quality work being completed in many environmentally sensitive areas, with few to no problems or issues resulting. Continuing this process offers similar benefits for the future with periodic re-evaluation and additions of qualified contractors being fair to the industry and promoting competition. Based on the above, discussion it is recommended that Council:

1. add the following contractors to “pre-qualified contractors” list for bidding on the following types of work:
 - (a) **City Dyke Projects in 2010**
 - GCL Contracting and Excavating Ltd.

(b) City In-Creek Construction Projects in 2010

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