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Department of Utilities  
Appleton Water Treatment Facility  
2281 Manitowoc Road  
Menasha, WI 54952  
920-997-4200 ph  
920-997-3240 fax

**TO:** Chairperson Greg Dannecker and Members of the Utilities Committee

**FROM:** Utilities Director Chris Shaw

**DATE:** September 2, 2015

**RE:** *Award rehabilitation and painting of Water Plant Softener #4 to Howard Grote and Sons in the amount of \$248,806 with a 5% contingency of \$12,440 for a project total not to exceed \$261,246*

*Approve additional rehabilitation and painting of Water Plant Softener #3 to Howard Grote and Sons in the amount of \$248,806 with a 5% contingency of \$12,440 for a project total not to exceed \$261,246 Pending City Council approval of the 2016 Water Utility budget.*

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Water Utility has conducted public bidding for the rehabilitation services of Water Plant Softener #4 and #3. Robert E. Lee and Associates performed the inspection and prepared the project specifications and bidding documents. Robert E. Lee recommends award of the Water Plant Softener rehabilitation to Howard Grote and Sons from McFarland, Wisconsin.

**BACKGROUND**

The City of Appleton Water Treatment Facility has four water softeners that require maintenance and painting approximately every 10 years. This maintenance work protects carbon steel components from corrosion and extends equipment life. In addition, Wisconsin DNR has recently required the city to paint the softeners as detailed in their Sanitary Inspection Report. Two softeners have been rehabilitated to date leaving a balance of two which are scheduled for this year and 2016.

**BIDDING PROCESS**

The Softener Painting bid package bids were opened on August 25, 2015. The base bid was recommended without the alternate. A tabulation of base bid for one or two softeners are listed in the following table.

<b>Softener Rehabilitation Bid Tabulation for #4 and #3 Softeners</b>		
<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Softener #4 Only</b>	<b>Softeners #3 &amp; #4</b>
Howard Grote & Sons, McFarland, WI	\$248,806	\$497,612
TMI Coating, St. Paul, MN	\$306,250	\$612,500
MZ Construction, Linden, WI	\$325,100	\$650,200
Mill Coating, Suamico, WI	\$354,000	\$708,000

Four sealed bids were opened and all met requirements defined in the bid package. The low bid was submitted by Howard Grote & Sons in the amount of \$248,806 for Softener #4 and 248,806 for #3. The bid specifications limit work start on Softener #3 until after January 1, 2016 when anticipated funding in the 2016 budget would be available.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

I recommend award of rehabilitation and painting Water Plant Softener #4 to Howard Grote and Sons in the amount of \$248,806 with a contingency of \$12,440 for a project total not to exceed \$261,246. I also recommend rehabilitation and painting of Water Plant Softener #3 to Howard Grote and Sons in the amount of \$248,806 with a contingency of \$12,440 for a project total not to exceed \$261,246 pending City Council approval of the 2016 Water Utility budget.

If you have any questions regarding this project please contact me at ph: 920-997-4200.