



DEPARTMENT OF
UTILITIES

Department of Utilities
Water Treatment Facility
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www.appleton.org/government/utilities

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 18, 2024
To: Chairperson Brad Firkus and Members of the Finance Committee
CC: John Pogrnt, Water Operations Supervisor
Kelli Rindt, Enterprise Accounting Fund Manager
From: Chris Stempa, Director of Utilities
Subject: **Finance Committee Action: Award sole source purchase of Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) equipment and commissioning services to Werner Electric in the amount of \$37,573**

BACKGROUND:

The Appleton Water Treatment Facility (AWTF) utilizes ultraviolet (UV) light processes to effectively inactivate microorganisms that are sometimes found in source water. There are four individual UV “reactors” that are supplied filtered water by dedicated pumps from upstream treatment processes. There are five pumps total that can be called upon to provide water based on system demands. Typically, there are only two to three pumps on at any given time. Each pump is 200 horsepower is equipped with a variable frequency drive (VFD) and rated for 5,400 gallons per minute flow.

The anticipated life expectancy of VFDs is dependent on variety of factors including the equipment size and voltage, amount of run time it sees, operating environments (dry and clean versus damp and dusty), level of preventative maintenance, and the quality of installation. Similar sized VFDs at the AWTF have been operating up to 20 years without failure. However, 20 years is approaching the top end of medium voltage VFD equipment like that of the UV feed pumps.

The VFD associated with one of the UV supply pumps recently failed and requires replacement. Although there remains redundancy to maintain uninterrupted treatment operation, staff desire to advance the replacement work in an expeditious manner.

QUOTATION

Werner Electric was asked to provide a quotation for a replacement VFD that is compatible to the existing Allen Bradley unit. The cost of new Rockwell Automation Allen-Bradley VFD totals \$37,573.

JUSTIFICATION

Werner Electric is the authorized regional distributor supporting Allen Bradley and Rockwell Automation. The quote provided by Werner Electric includes the new Rockwell Automation Allen-Bradley VFD. The Rockwell Automation replacement VFD would be manufactured to fit into the existing motor control center.

RECOMMENDATION:

Per the approval procedures outlined in Section G. (1) of the city Procurement and Contract Management Policy, I recommend the purchase of Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) equipment and commissioning services to Werner Electric in the amount of \$37,573.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Chris Stempa at 920-832-5945.

Encl: Finance Department Sole Source Request Form



SOLE SOURCE REQUEST

The undersigned certifies that the commodity/service shown below qualifies as a sole source request and meets one or more of the following requirements. The department has demonstrated, and the Purchasing Manager concurs that only one source exists, the price is equitable, and/or noncompetitive negotiation is in the best interests of the City.

- Unique, proprietary, or one-of-a-kind:** Specific commodity/service is required and available from only one source, giving the City a superior and necessary benefit that cannot be obtained from other sources.
- Inadequate competition:** Purchasing solicitation (bid, proposal, or quote) did not result in any qualified vendor responses and competition is determined to be inadequate.
- Health or Safety Concern:** When a health or safety concern exists that is *not* an immediate threat but needs to be addressed in a period that does not allow for formal competitive procurement procedures.
- Continuity of design:** Consistency with current commodity or service.
- Emergency procurement:** A risk of human suffering or substantial damage to real or personal property exists requiring immediate attention.
- Cooperative purchase:** Purchase from another governmental unit contract or state approved purchasing association.
- Other:** Description provided below

Werner Electric is the only local authorized distributor supporting Allen Bradley and Rockwell Automation.

PROPOSED DETAILS

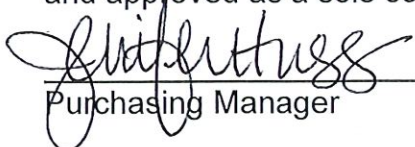
Requesting dept: Appleton Water Treatment Facility

Product/service: Variable Frequency Drive equipment and service commission

Vendor name: Werner Electric

Total cost: \$37,573

Justification and price quotation provided by the department, for the items to be considered and approved as a sole source purchase attached for review.


Purchasing Manager

9/17/24
Date