

HOTLINE CASE

2008-16

October, 2008

Pressure Washing Bids

This person called into the Hotline. The Ethics Officer took the initial call. After receiving the paperwork from her, it was then referred to the IG for handling as the procurement process in this case had to be sorted out to see if it complied with our local code.

The IG did a report on this to the person (attached). The Ethics Officer called the person on Oct. 19th—she is pleased and will await the new Request for Quote on this job.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



Ethics Hotline Case #08-16

Complaint – Appearance of an unfair procurement process in the requests by the City for quotes for pressure washing services.

E-mail sent to complainant after investigation.

We have completed our review of your complaint and provide the following information from City Procurement. My office has also reviewed the documentation and concur with this information. In summary, from the information provided, you should see that there were 2 separate requests for Quotes with different scope of works and locations sent out by City Procurement in an attempt to be able to have the work done in each area simultaneously. Your company was asked to quote on the Southside area while your competitor, Joan Greenwalt of Custom Maintenance was requested to provide a quote on the Downtown/Core area. The Downtown/Core area was awarded to Felton Pressure Washing and Painting as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Due to discrepancies in the scope provided for the Southside area, that contract was not awarded and the City will be going out again with another request for quotes. This has not yet been done, but you should be given the opportunity to submit another quote.

I hope this clarifies the situation. Below is the detailed response received from Mike Clapsaddle, Division Chief of City Procurement.

There were two separate requisitions received by Procurement which resulted in the issuance of two separate solicitations for pressure washing services being sent out to perspective bidders. The requisition numbers were 41535 and 41537. Requisition 41435 was for pressure washing services at six community centers on the Southside and 41537 was for pressure washing services at six community centers Downtown/Core.

Requisition 41535 (Southside) - Solicitations were sent out on 8/4/08 with a response date of 8/8/08. Three quotes were received and were sent to the requesting agency for concurrence on 8/12/08. The requesting agency (Alice Jones) recommended on 9/24/08 that we re-solicit for quotes due to unclear specifications. At this point, Procurement awaits the revised specifications to solicit for quotes.

Requisition 41537 (Downtown/Core) - Solicitations were sent out on 8/4/08 with a response date of 8/8/08. Five quotes were received and were sent to the requesting agency for concurrence on 8/12/08. The requesting agency (Alice Jones) recommended award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder: Felton Pressure Washing and Painting. The Purchase Order was issued on 8/18/08.

Summary: There were two separate solicitations for separate scopes, one of which has been awarded and the other is to be re-solicited for quotes upon Procurement receiving revised specifications for the requesting agency.