

RESOLUTION 2024-17

A RESOLUTION REJECTING THE JANUARY 24, 2024, CONSTRUCTION BID (COF CONTRACT NO. 2023-0129) FOR THE “LIBERTY PARK BRIDGE” PROJECT (COF PROJECT NO. 2020-004).

WHEREAS, in 2006, the City of Franklin, Tennessee (the “City”) awarded a contract for the construction of the “Liberty Park Phase II Nature Park” project, which included the installation of a prefabricated steel vehicular truss bridge, having dimensions of thirty (30) feet wide by eighty-five (85) long, having a wood plank deck, and crossing South Prong Spencer Creek; and

WHEREAS, in efforts to minimize future maintenance, minimize vehicular noise, and prepare for the upcoming expansion of Liberty Park, the City engaged one of its trusted on-call engineering consultants to perform a technical study to ascertain the possibility of replacing the timber bridge decking with a concrete deck; and

WHEREAS, the study results indicated that the existing bridge structure could *not* support the additional weight of a replacement concrete bridge deck, but preliminary recommendations were provided to retrofit the existing structure to support a concrete bridge deck; and

WHEREAS, the City further engaged its on-call engineering consultant to develop construction plans to allow for the retrofit of the steel bridge with a concrete deck and to relocate an existing section of eighteen (18) inch sanitary sewer and manhole structure that is currently located beneath the bridge; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2024, a single sealed bid was received in response to the City’s public advertisement for the construction (COF Contract No. 2023-0129) of the “Liberty Park Bridge” project (COF Project No. 2020-004) by City staff at City Hall, 109 3rd Avenue South, Franklin, Tennessee 37064, where it was opened and read aloud; and

WHEREAS, this single bid was by Bell & Associates Construction, LLC with a total bid amount of One Million Six Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Six and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,622,636.00); and

WHEREAS, after review and tabulation of the submitted bid and discussions between City staff and the City’s on-call engineering consultant, City staff recommends the rejection of the bid as submitted by Bell & Associates Construction, LLC for the following reasons:

- (1) Lack of competitive number of bidders (*i.e.*, only one bid received),
- (2) Small scale of project *plus* its level of complexity likely led to the limited interest by potential bidders and the high cost of the single received bid,
- (3) After additional discussions, the project team has confirmed that, due to a combination of (*a*) the high cost of the complex structural retrofits and (*b*) the proposed relocation of the 18-inch sanitary sewer main, a new, fully concrete bridge structure can be constructed in approximately half of the span length of the existing bridge for a similar or likely less cost than the currently proposed design, and

- (4) A full replacement of the existing bridge with a shorter span, fully concrete bridge will likely lead to more interest (*i.e.*, competition) from potential bidders, versus the existing, complex retrofit design.

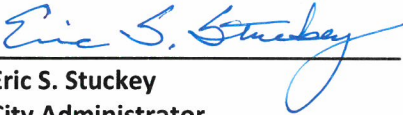
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. Approval is granted to reject the single bid received for the construction (COF Contract No. 2023-0129) of the "Liberty Park Bridge" project (COF Contract No. 2020-004) as submitted by Bell & Associates Construction, LLC in the amount of One Million Six Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Six and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,622,636.00).

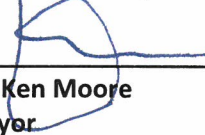
SECTION II. City staff is directed to proceed with the redesign and subsequent rebidding of the project as a full bridge replacement, rather than as a retrofit, with the specific intention of shortening the overall bridge span (*i.e.*, length), which *should* lead to more interest by potential bidders and a more competitive bid process.

IT IS SO RESOLVED AND DONE on this 26th day of March, 2024


ATTEST:

By: 
Eric S. Stuckey
City Administrator

CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:

By: 
Dr. Ken Moore
Mayor

Approved as to Form:

By: 
William E. Squires
Assistant City Attorney