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# WILLETT, HOFMANN & ASSOCIATES, INC. ENGINEERS - LAND SURVEYORS - ARCHITECTS

C.K. WILLETT, P.E., P.L.S.  
1905-1971

ROBERT HOFMANN, P.E., S.E., P.L.S.  
1921-1999

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THOMAS W. HOUCK, P.E., A.I.A.  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURE

February 15, 2008

Honorable Mayor Burke and  
Members of the City Council  
City of Dixon  
121 W. Second Street  
Dixon Illinois 61021

Re: City of Dixon, Illinois  
Custer Avenue and Fourth Street  
Sanitary Sewer Replacement  
Recommendation Letter

Dear Mayor Burke and Members of the City Council:

Proposals for the Custer Avenue and Fourth Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement project were received and opened on February 15, 2008 at 11:00 A.M. at City Hall. Four (4) proposals were received.

Proposals were reviewed for completeness and read aloud. A tabulation of the bids, including a listing of items to be submitted with the proposals, was later completed and verified. A certified copy of the bid tabulation is included for your review.

## BIDDING IRREGULARITIES

No bidding irregularities were found.

## SUMMARY OF BIDS

Go Excavating, Inc. was the low bidder complying with all the bidding requirements. Go Excavating was 7.7% and \$11,576.90 above the engineer's estimate. A tabulation comparing the bids received in dollars and percentages is as follows:

CONTRACTOR	BID	\$ Over/Under Estimate	\$ Over/Under Estimate
Go Excavating, Inc. Freeport, Illinois	\$161,596.50	\$11,576.90 ↑	7.7% ↑
Fischer Excavating Inc. Freeport, Illinois	\$166,524.50	\$16,504.90 ↑	11.0% ↑
Northwest Illinois Construction, LLC Rock Falls, Illinois	\$192,062.26	\$42,042.66 ↑	28.0% ↑
Martin & Company Excavating Oregon, Illinois	\$199,729.80	\$49,710.20 ↑	33.1% ↑

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## AWARD RECOMMENDATION

The project did come in at 7.7% over our estimate. We anticipate the extra cost to be associated with maintaining one lane of traffic on Fourth Street. During the bidding process, I received numerous calls on this, and it seemed the degree of difficulty was a little harder than originally thought.

The low bidder was Go Excavating, Inc from Freeport, Illinois. A little background information on Go Excavating may be helpful, as they are a relatively new company and have not done a lot of projects in this area. Go Excavating was founded in 2005, but the two co-founders have been in the construction business for a long period of time. The two co-owners are Wayne Oppold and Shain Gallagher. I will give some background information on Wayne, as I am more familiar with him. Wayne began his construction career in 1986 with Economy Excavating Company, which was a family business. In 1997 Fischer Excavating acquired Economy Excavating, and at that time Wayne was a foreman and heavy equipment operator. In 2005, Wayne left Fischer and founded Go Excavating, Inc.

Our company has worked with Go Excavating on a couple of projects. Go Excavating is an experienced, conscientious contractor that wants to make sure the job gets done right. They have a pretty extensive list of projects listed in their bid. The majority of the projects are located closer to the Freeport area, but they do have some projects in the Rockford, Belvidere, and Aurora areas.

We feel that Go Excavating, Inc. is a very experienced and competent bidder. We therefore recommend that the Custer Avenue and Fourth Street project be awarded to Go Excavating, Inc. of Freeport, Illinois for their low bid of \$161,596.50.

Sincerely,

WILLETT, HOFMANN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

BY   
Matthew Wagner, P.E.

MLW:rv

Encl.

cc: Kathe Swanson, City Clerk w/ Original Bids & encl. ✓  
Shawn Ortgiesen, City Engineer w/ encl.  
Dan Mahan, WWTP Superintendent w/ encl.  
File

TABULATION OF BIDS

BID OPENING: February 15, 2008  
 11:00 a.m.  
 Dixon City Hall

CONTRACTOR	ITEM	Engineer's Estimate		Go Excavating, Inc. Freeport, Illinois		Fischer Excavating Inc. Freeport, Illinois		Northwest Illinois Construction, LLC Rock Falls, Illinois		Marin & Company Excavating Oregon, Illinois			
		QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL		
ADDENDA NOS.													
SIGNATURE PAGE	2												
BID BOND	00311-5 00410-1-2	719 L.F.		67.00	48,173.00	108.00	77,652.00	78.00	56,082.00	81.00	58,239.00	101.00	72,619.00
		44 L.F.		100.00	4,400.00	70.00	3,080.00	258.00	11,352.00	80.00	3,520.00	46.00	2,024.00
		269 L.F.		85.00	22,865.00	78.00	20,982.00	59.00	15,871.00	125.00	33,625.00	86.00	23,134.00
		11 Each		200.00	2,200.00	500.00	5,500.00	85.00	935.00	75.00	825.00	125.00	1,375.00
		3 Each		4,000.00	12,000.00	4,000.00	12,000.00	3,430.00	10,290.00	4,550.00	13,650.00	3,600.00	10,800.00
		211.9 C.Y.		20.00	4,238.00	42.00	8,899.80	23.00	4,873.70	33.30	7,056.27	18.00	3,814.20
		207.7 C.Y.		20.00	4,154.00	39.00	8,100.30	24.00	4,984.80	40.30	8,370.31	18.00	3,738.60
		64.3 C.Y.		22.00	1,414.60	38.00	2,443.40	100.00	6,430.00	27.60	1,774.68	20.00	1,286.00
		405 S.Y.		50.00	20,250.00	12.00	4,860.00	81.00	32,805.00	100.00	40,500.00	88.00	35,640.00
		291 L.F.		15.00	4,365.00	9.00	2,619.00	7.00	2,037.00	7.00	2,037.00	19.00	5,529.00
		450 S.Y.		30.00	13,500.00	22.00	9,900.00	41.00	18,450.00	41.00	18,450.00	65.00	29,250.00
		28 S.Y.		70.00	1,960.00	20.00	560.00	38.00	1,064.00	30.00	840.00	40.00	1,120.00
		1 L.S.		7,500.00	7,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	840.00	840.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
		1 L.S.		3,000.00	3,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	510.00	510.00	675.00	675.00	4,400.00	4,400.00
TOTAL BID PROPOSAL					150,019.60		161,596.50		166,524.50		192,062.26		199,729.80

The undersigned hereby certifies that he has carefully compared the foregoing tabulation with the executed copy of the proposals submitted by the bidders and that this is a true and correct record of such proposals, which were publicly opened and read aloud on February 15, 2008 at the City Hall in Dixon, Illinois.

ATTEST: *Bonnie Bollman*  
 Notary Public

*Matthew Willett*  
 Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc.



Willett, Hofmann and Associates, Inc.  
 Consulting Engineers