

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item J-3
April 10, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Assistant Procurement Finance Director, Celeste Walker

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item J-3 [0:00:00 p.m.]

A Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Procurement Officer to award the Disaster Debris Monitoring Services contract to Tetra Tech, Inc., the sole responsive-responsible proposer, pursuant to Section 2-763 of the Procurement Code entitled “Contract Award” and Request for Proposals (RFP) 2018-001; further authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Professional Services Agreement for a period of three (3) years with options to renew for two (2) additional two (2) year periods, exercisable at the option of the City Manager; should negotiations fail with the sole responsive-responsible proposer, City staff, after consultation with the City Attorney ’s office and outside FEMA counsel, shall seek an alternate contract source in compliance with requirements.

City Commission Meeting

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Agenda Item J-3 - Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Procurement Officer to award the Disaster Debris Monitoring Services contract to Tetra Tech, Inc., further authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Professional Services Agreement for a period of three years with options to renew for two additional two-year periods.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Item J-3.

City Attorney Ramos: A Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Procurement Officer to award the Disaster Debris Monitoring Services contract to Tetra Tech, Inc., the sole responsive-responsible proposer, pursuant to Section 2-763 of the Procurement Code entitled “Contract Award” and Request for Proposals 2018-001; further authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Professional Services Agreement for a period of three years with options to renew for two additional two-year periods, exercisable at the option of the City Manager; should negotiations fail with the sole responsive-responsible proposer, City staff, after consultation with the City Attorney ’s office and outside FEMA counsel, shall seek an alternate contract source in compliance with these requirements.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Good afternoon. Celeste Walker, Assistant Finance Director for Procurement. This particular project is an award for the disaster monitoring, which I’m sure you’re all looking forward to. This portion of the contract is for the contractor to monitor the debris collection, the reduction, and also assist with FEMA collection. We had one responsive, responsible bidder, that was Tetra Tech, Inc. It was evaluated by a professional committee of internal and external members. This particular company is well-versed in disaster recovery. They’ve been performing the services for 17 years. We did an exhaustive due diligence report. They do not have any issues or concerns with litigations. They have excellent performance reviews, and we are recommending we move forward with the award.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Any questions?

Commissioner Lago: Just a few questions.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah.

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Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: First off, you mentioned it was the only sole responsive proposer.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: That's correct.

Commissioner Lago: After what we went through after not having a storm for 15 years and we saw that we had some issues in regards to monitoring and getting firms to pick up debris in a timely manner because it was -- again, we were spread thin, multiple storms. Do you think it's in the best interest of the City to potentially have more than just one firm? Maybe we can go out again, in four or five months, and find another firm to add to the mix, kind of like what we have with the CM at-risk contract, where those -- which I have multiple of those contracts -- you're prequalified, and then they just start giving you the work because you've been prequalified through a thorough, you know, process.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: This particular contract is for the monitoring portion. It's not for the actual debris...

Commissioner Lago: No, no. I understand that.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: I understand that.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: So, for the debris collection, that's where we have multiple vendors.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah, but monitoring...

Commissioner Lago: You don't think we...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: They would be stepping on each other.

Commissioner Lago: I'm just asking, have you -- maybe you have different...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Monitoring.

Commissioner Lago: Maybe you have different sites or -- the reason why I'm asking is because the -- you know, I just read and I looked over their information. They seem very capable. Actually, they were being hired by Key Biscayne. They were just hired by Key Biscayne to do an analysis of their response, you know, in reference to recovery. I think it was a \$135,000 contract. I was reading online yesterday. So, I want to make sure that we're not spread too thin where this firm is being hired by other municipalities and if we do have some sort of disaster, like what happened with Irma, that we are priority number one.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Correct. With that particular -- with this particular, I guess, phase of the services, it is traditional that only one contractor is hired for actual monitoring services. So, we surveyed six other municipalities, and again, they, too, only hire one particular contractor for this portion of the services. For this other portion, as far as disaster recovery or the collection of the debris, that is when we actually engage multiple providers to be able to service and provide the needs that we have.

Commissioner Lago: And are we sure that -- like I mentioned, you know, make sure you read up -- and not that you haven't -- but the Islander News from Key Biscayne. They're being hired to do a thorough analysis in reference to debris hauling vendors and all kinds of different things and monitoring and give their input. What I want to make sure is that not 34 municipalities are hiring Tetra Tech, and if something happens, and then everybody is, you know, saying, hey,

Tetra Tech. We want to be your number-one people. Come on. We have a contract with you, which is kind of like what happened with our debris hauling.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Correct.

Commissioner Lago: So...

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: So, with regard to that...

Commissioner Lago: And I know you can't -- you don't have a crystal ball and I'm not -- I'm just saying...

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: They do have several contracts with other municipalities, which also lends to their credibility for having the background and the capability to providing the services. With regard to their capacity, when we actually get into negotiations to discuss that, that is part of the conversation for us to make sure they haven't overextended themselves and that they can and in fact perform according to the standards for the City, so that would be what we would be engaging in when we...

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Have the conversation...

Commissioner Lago: Maybe can...

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: With them.

Commissioner Lago: Maybe we could also inquire -- maybe through the Manager we can inquire because what they're doing is they're going to help update the -- Key Biscayne's

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and Hurricane Plan, which were developed in 2006 for the island. So, maybe it's an opportunity to some...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, we have a COOP plan that is being updated right now...

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: With an outside consultant, All Hands Consulting, which I believe the County has also used.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, we're at similar levels...

Commissioner Lago: Stages, okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Of the updates.

Commissioner Lago: Alright.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Commissioner, the monitoring people, they -- what they actually do is they actually hire local, train on-site and also do the certification of the trucks. So, their equipment is basically technology use, so there's iPads and so forth, which I believe that the committee found them to be excellent as far as their technology portion is concerned. So, they actually hire the people there. We -- to go through FEMA training, and so, it's not -- it's not an issue of having to get trucks, equipment and things like this, which are...

Commissioner Lago: No, no. I know that...

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: A different issue.

Commissioner Lago: I know that it takes time because they have to come on the ground, find competent people who they can train to do the monitoring process. I got that completely. I just want to make sure that there isn't a delayed response in getting that training started. So, I mean if you...

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Fortunately, it's not heavy equipment, like you do in the...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, yeah.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: In the...

Commissioner Lago: I understand.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Trash -- in the trash hauling.

Commissioner Lago: If you feel comfortable, I have no issues. I just wanted to bring that up to make sure that we're a priority.

Assistant City Manager Iglesias: Yes, sir.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: Yes, sir.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. This is a public hearing.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Any members of the public wish to be heard? Would somebody make a motion?

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

Commissioner Lago: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll, please?

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

(Vote: 5-0)