



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager

**Cc:** David Fernandez, Asst. City Manager - Operations

**FROM:** Jay Gewin, Utilities Manager

**DATE:** November 1, 2010

**SUBJECT: Approval of a 3-year Contract with Charley Toppino and Sons for Rehabilitation of Stormwater Drainage Wells. Waiving Minor Bid Informality.**

#### **ACTION STATEMENT:**

This request is to approve a 3-year contract with Charley Toppino and Sons for the rehabilitation of stormwater drainage wells. The City would have an option to extend the contract for two one-year extensions at the completion of the 3-year term. This will also waive a minor bid informality.

Specific work under this contract would be performed on a task-order basis, which would require approval of the City Commission prior to award.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Key West currently owns four pump-assisted stormwater drainage well systems located at the intersection of Patricia St., & Ashby St., the North end of Simonton St. (2 wells), and the South end of White St. This City also owns 119 stormwater gravity wells with 3 more that have been designed for future construction.

Under peak flow conditions, excess silt, sand, trash, and other debris can carry through the pollution control devices of stormwater wells, thereby reducing their efficiency. Regular maintenance/cleaning work on both the pollution control devices and well structures are necessary to ensure both the pump-assist and gravity wells operate as intended.

The level of maintenance to be performed in this bid requires a certified well driller with a drill rig to perform the work. OMI regularly cleans the baffle boxes and piping, but is not a certified well driller and does not have the

*Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.*

vehicle (a new drill rig would cost \$600,000-\$700,000) and equipment to perform the well cleaning that would be performed under this agreement. OMI is therefore unable to provide the well-cleaning that would be proposed under this contract.

Stormwater gravity wells require well cleaning every 5-7 years, depending on various conditions (hurricanes, location, etc.). Stormwater pump-assist wells require maintenance every 2-4 years based on similar conditions. The difference in years is because the former functions on a gravity system, while the pump-assist wells are situated in areas more prone to flooding and the water is being accelerated through the pump system.

**PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION:**

It is therefore in the City's best interest to enter into an agreement with a qualified stormwater well rehabilitation contractor to perform this work over a 3-year period.

According to Best Management Practices, the City is obligated to clean and maintain our stormwater wells on a regular basis, as discussed above. A consent order with the State of Florida also establishes the standards that we must maintain the wells.

The preferred well rehabilitation technique is airlift development. Under this process, large quantities of water are generated that must be disposed of properly. Chemical cleaning of the wells will be included as an add-alternative on an as-needed basis.

The City opened the bids for stormwater well maintenance on September 16, 2010. A total of five firms responded.

I propose entering into stormwater well maintenance contracts with 3 different companies. This will allow the City multiple options for having firms available to perform the work. There will be other well maintenance contracts presented to the City Commission at a future meeting. We have received a signed agreement from Charley Toppino and Sons, so we can move forward on this contract proposal now.

Work under this contract would be awarded on a task-order basis, each of which would require approval of the City Commission. Ordinarily, staff will request task-orders from the firm that can perform work capably at the lowest cost to the City. However, if that firm were to not be available, or if the City would need stormwater wells to be cleaned on an emergency basis prior to an impending storm (such as during the 2005 hurricane season), we would have the option to utilize one of our other contracted firms.

There was a minor bid informality on the Charley Toppino and Sons submittal. The well drilling license forms were not included with the original bid. Toppino's have since provided those documents.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Approval of this 3-year contract with Charley Toppino and Sons will help the City to maintain its stormwater gravity wells, and will give us the flexibility to have multiple firms under contract so that we can be assured work can begin promptly.

2. The City could decline entering into this contract. This option is not recommended for several reasons. A consent order with the State of Florida requires us to maintain our stormwater infrastructure. And having multiple companies under contract allows the City to have increased flexibility to ensure our stormwater wells are clean prior to an arriving storm.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no direct cost related to entering into a contract with this firm. However, the cost of services for any work will be established through a task order. As per the City's purchasing code, any task order exceeding \$20,000 will be brought to the City Commission for approval.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The staff recommends option # 1, the approval of the 3-year contract with Charley Toppino and Sons for stormwater well maintenance and waiving the minor bid informality.