

Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Engineering Division

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Mark Ceppi, C. Tech.
Engineering Technologist I

Date: June 13, 2023

Subject: Tender Award: Contract T23-232 – Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchase

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The tender in the amount of \$135,092.63 (including HST) for Contract T23-232 – Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchases be awarded to Econolite Canada Inc.
2. The Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary agreement.

Background

Contract T23-232 (Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchase) was issued by the Engineering Division to purchase seven traffic signal cabinets. Five of these cabinets will be used to replace units currently installed at traffic signals along Dufferin Avenue in Wallaceburg, which will be reconstructed as part of a larger roadway, watermain, and storm sewer project. Two of the cabinets will be used to replace older cabinets installed at the Mill Street and Queen Street traffic signal in Tilbury and the Grand Avenue West and Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Entrance traffic signal in Chatham.

A traffic signal cabinet is the operational heart of a traffic signal. It houses the controller timer, terminals for powering traffic and pedestrian head indications, and vehicle and pedestrian detection equipment. Supplementary components such as the malfunction monitor unit, AC and DC power supply, heating and ventilation, audible pedestrian pushbutton controller, and the “police door,” which contains an actuation trigger that Chatham-Kent Police Services can access to control the traffic signal for emergencies or special events. The cabinet slated for the traffic signal at Dufferin Avenue and McNaughton Avenue will be specialty built to work with triggers inside the Wallaceburg Fire Station, which will actuate an exclusive southbound green signal indication through the intersection and the flashing beacons on Wellington Street.

The ages of the traffic signal cabinets being replaced along Dufferin Avenue, range between 1999 and 2014. The two other cabinets in Chatham and Tilbury are both from 1999. The older cabinets are past their typical lifecycle. The newer cabinets or components deemed to be in acceptable condition, will be salvaged for spare units used as emergency replacements in the event of a component failure, vehicle collision, power surge, etc.

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent specifies the NEMA TS2 industry standard cabinets, which meet all current electrical standards for safe and reliable operation. The new cabinets will provide the space and compatibility with current applications (e.g., audible pedestrian systems), and room to grow for future needs (e.g., autonomous vehicle technology).

Comments

Contract T23-232 (Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchase) is a one-time purchase with a delivery due date of September 15, 2023. The installation work will be performed by the electrical sub-contractor for the Dufferin Avenue Reconstruction project or the Chatham-Kent traffic signal maintenance contractor.

In accordance with Purchasing By-law #166-2020, the purchasing tender was advertised on the municipal website on May 24, 2023 and closed on June 7, 2023. A total of six potential bidding suppliers obtained a copy of the contract document from the Chatham-Kent Bids & Tenders website and four tender bids were submitted. The bid results and ranking are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Bid Results for T23-232 – Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchase

Rank	Company Name	Amount (including HST)
1.	ATS Traffic Ltd., Mississauga, Ontario	\$127,880.01
2.	Econolite Canada Inc., Markham, Ontario	\$135,092.63
3.	Tacel Ltd., Scarborough, Ontario	\$137,213.64
4.	Innovative Traffic Solutions Inc.	\$197,446.03

The Engineering staff reviewed each of the tender bids submitted and deem them to be complete in all aspects and error free, except for the bid from ATS Traffic Ltd.

The contract tender document included a detailed set of specifications for the traffic signal cabinets. One major component that is to be supplied with the cabinet is the controller unit. The accepted models of controller, and by association the cabinet, have all been pre-approved or are already in use by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

ATS Traffic Ltd. was rejected as a non-compliant bid. The bid submitted did not meet the tender specifications. Econolite Canada Inc. is the lowest compliant bidder and does supply a product that meets the tender specifications. Therefore, it is the recommendation herein that the tender be awarded to Econolite Canada Inc.

Areas of Strategic Focus

This report supports the following areas of strategic focus:

			
Economic Prosperity	Healthy & Safe Community	People & Culture	Environmental Sustainability
1.1			

Consultation

The tenders were received by the Purchasing Division and reviewed by the Engineering Division.

The Manager of Purchasing and Accounts Payable (Purchasing) was consulted regarding ATS Traffic Limited not being able to supply the product specified in the contract tender documents. Purchasing reviewed the tender specifications and the Addendum issued to clarify the specifications and agreed that the bid was non-compliant. Purchasing issued a communication to ATS Traffic Limited indicating this.

Communication

The tender documents were posted on the Bids & Tenders website for prospective suppliers to review. Unsuccessful bidders will be notified by the Purchasing Division through the Bids & Tenders website.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ)

Traffic Signal Cabinets promote equity by ensuring that all individuals, including those with disabilities, have equal access to the streets and crosswalks. Cabinets also play a crucial role in ensuring safety on the road for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Financial Implications

The recommended project cost and funding sources for Contract T23-232 (Traffic Signal Cabinet Purchase), is outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Recommended Cost and Funding Summary

Description	Total
A) Recommended Costs	
Recommended Tender	\$119,551.00
Plus HST (13%)	\$15,541.63
Total Cost (with HST)	\$135,092.63
Less HST Rebate (11.24%)	\$(13,437.53)
Total Recommended Cost	\$121,655.10
B) Recommended Funding	
Traffic Signal Lifecycle Reserve	\$121,655.10
Total Recommended Funding	\$121,655.10

The recommended tender bid, submitted by Econolite Canada Inc. was within Engineering's estimated purchase cost.

Prepared by:

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Reviewed by:

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Mark McFadden, P. Eng., Acting Director, Engineering

Edward Soldo, P. Eng., General Manager, Infrastructure and Engineering Services

Consulted and confirmed the content of the consultation section of the report by:

Jennifer Scherle, Manager, Purchasing and Accounts Payable

Attachments: None