

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF PURCHASES & SUPPLIES**



Sheldon A. Neeley, Mayor

PROPOSAL #24000545

WATER & SANITARY SEWER RATE STUDY

Date Posted: 05/13/24

PROPOSAL NO. 24000545**CITY OF FLINT****FINANCE DEPARTMENT****DIVISION OF PURCHASES AND SUPPLIES**

City Hall, 1101 S. Saginaw Street, Room #203 – Flint, Michigan 48502

(810) 766-7340

www.cityofflint.com



Sheldon Neeley

Mayor

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**OWNER/RETURN TO:**

THE CITY OF FLINT
FINANCE DEPARTMENT – DIVISION OF PURCHASES AND SUPPLIES
1101 S. SAGINAW ST., ROOM 203, 2nd FLOOR
FLINT, MI 48502

PROPOSAL # 24000545**SCOPE OF WORK:**

The City of Flint, Finance Department of Purchases & Supplies, is soliciting sealed bids for providing:

WATER AND SANITARY SEWER RATE STUDY

Per the attached additional requirements.

If your firm is interested in providing the requested services, please submit:

Submit to City:

- 1 original, printed, signed, original proposals and signed addenda
- 2 additional copies unbound
- 1 electronic copy

Proposal submittal information MUST be received by the following dates and times:

1. The mail in **HARD COPY** with the original signature (signed documents) must be received by **Tuesday, June 04, 2024 by 11:00 A.M. (EST)**, City of Flint, Finance Department - Division of Purchases and Supplies, 1101 S. Saginaw St., Room 203, Flint, MI, 48502. Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly identifying the proposal name and proposal number.
2. **Electronic Copy**, please email to PurchasingBids@cityofflint.com by **Tuesday, June 04, 2024 by 11:00 A.M. (EST)**. Please note that in the subject line of the email, type in the proposal name and number.
3. Faxed bids are not accepted.
4. Both mail in proposal and electronic submittal must be received by due date and time.

PLEASE NOTE: When dropping off a bid, please do not put bids in drop boxes on the outside of City Hall. Please call if you have any questions and need to drop off a bid.

All additional proposal documents, requirements, addendums, specifications, and plans/drawings (if utilized) are available on the Purchasing page of the City of Flint's web site at <https://www.cityofflint.com/finance/purchasing/bids-2/> under "open bids" and the specific bid or proposal number assigned to this notice.

Effective immediately upon release of these Bidding Documents, and until notice of contract award, all official communications from proposers regarding the requirements of this Bid shall be directed to:

Lauren Rowley
810-766-7340

lrowley@cityofflint.com

The City, or designee, shall distribute all official changes, modifications, responses to questions or notices relating to the requirements of this Bid. Addendum to this Bid may be developed and shared with all Vendors. Any other information of any kind from any other source shall not be considered official, and proposers relying on other information do so at their own risk.

NOTICE TO VENDOR Offers, subject to the conditions made a part hereof, will be received at this office, ***1101 S. Saginaw St., Flint, MI 48502 for the following:***

All additional proposal documents, requirements, addendums, specifications, and plans/drawings (if utilized) are available on the Purchasing page of the City of Flint's web site at <https://www.cityofflint.com/finance/purchasing/bids-2/> under "open bids" and the specific bid or proposal number assigned to this notice.

New vendors should complete and submit a vendor application, IRS W-9 Form, and Vendor ACH Payment Authorization Form with the City of Flint. Links to these forms are available at <https://www.cityofflint.com/finance/accounts-payable-department/>.

Results may be viewed next business day online EXCEPT when a bid is under review. The bidders/public will only see the names of the bidders that submitted a bid, not their cost. This will protect the bidders cost in case there is a re-bid.

<https://www.cityofflint.com/finance/purchasing/results/> under "bid results".

City of Flint has partnered with BidNet as part of the [MITN Purchasing Group](#) (branded page link) to post bid opportunities to this site. As a vendor, you can register with the [MITN Purchasing Group](#) and be sure that you see all available bids and opportunities. By selecting automatic bid notification, your company will receive emails once the City of Flint has a bid opportunity that matches your company's business. In addition, the site handles bid opportunities, RFPs, and RFQs for other member governmental agencies throughout Michigan. City of Flint looks forward to providing you with more bid information and simplifying the entire bid, proposal, and quote processes for everyone involved. We appreciate your cooperation and welcome your participation. If you need help registering, please call the MITN Purchasing Group support department toll free 1-800-835-4603 option #2.

Link to City of Flint open solicitations:

[MITN Purchasing Group](#) (branded page link)

Any written questions regarding this project shall be directed to Lauren Rowley, Purchasing Manager at rowley@cityofflint.com using the subject title of "RFP #24-543– EMS BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES" **Questions must be submitted by Tuesday, May 21st, 2024 before 10:00 A.M. (EST).** Please see attached form for Question submittal form.

Bid Opening Due Date – Tuesday, June 4th, 2024 at 11:00 A.M.

Bid Opening via Google Meet. The public is invited to view the opening by joining the Google Meet link below:

BID OPENING

Tuesday, June 4th · 11:00am – 11:30pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/iuy-yukg-cka>

Or dial: (US) +1 424-570-2315

PIN: 377 915 582#

IN PERSON

The public is invited to view the bid opening in person by attending at McKenzie Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 1101 S. Saginaw St., Flint, MI 48502.

If you have any problems signing in, please email purchasingbids@cityofflint.com.

Sincerely,



Lauren Rowley,
Purchasing Manager

INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

- 1) **PRE-BID INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS:** Each bid that is timely received will be evaluated on its merit and completeness of all requested information. In preparing bids, Bidders are advised to rely only upon the contents of this Request for Proposals (RFP) and accompanying documents and any written clarifications or addenda issued by the City of Flint. If a Bidder finds a discrepancy, error or omission in the RFP package, or requires any written addendum thereto, the Bidder is requested to notify the Purchasing contact noted on the cover of this RFP, so that written clarification may be sent to all prospective Bidders. **THE CITY OF FLINT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ORAL INSTRUCTIONS.** All questions must be submitted in writing to the Finance Department of Purchases and Supplies before any pre-bid deadline (if specified) or at least one (1) week prior to the proposal opening date indicated on the front of this document.
- 2) **RFP MODIFICATIONS:** The City of Flint has the right to correct, modify or cancel the RFP, in whole or in part, or to reject any Bid, in whole or in part, within the discretion of the City of Flint, or their designee. If any such changes are made, all known recipients of the RFP will be sent a copy of such changes. If any changes are made to this RFP document by any party other than the City of Flint, the original document in the City of Flint's files takes precedence.
- 3) **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:**
 - a) The Bidder must include the following items, or the proposal may be deemed non-responsive:
 - i) All forms contained in this RFP, fully completed.
 - b) Bids must be submitted to the Finance Department of Purchases and Supplies, City of Flint, 1101 S. Saginaw Street, Room 203, Flint, Michigan 48502 by the date and time indicated as the deadline. The Purchasing Department time stamp will determine the official receipt time. It is each Bidder's responsibility to insure that their proposal is time stamped by the Purchasing Department by the deadline. This responsibility rests entirely with the Bidder, regardless of delays resulting from postal handling or for any other reasons. Proposals will be accepted at any time during the normal course of business only, said hours being 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, legal holidays as exception.
 - c) Bids must be enclosed in a sealed, non-transparent envelope, box or package, and clearly marked on the outside with the following: RFP Title, RFP Number, Deadline and Bidder's name.
 - d) Submission of a bid establishes a conclusive presumption that the Bidder is thoroughly familiar with the Request for Proposals (RFP), and that the Contractor understands and agrees to abide by each and all of the stipulations and requirements contained therein.
 - e) All prices and notations must be typed or printed in ink. No erasures are permitted. Mistakes may be crossed out and corrections must be initialed in ink by the person(s) signing the bid.
 - f) Proposals sent by email, facsimile, or other electronic means will not be considered unless specifically authorized in this RFP.
 - g) All costs incurred in the preparation and presentation of the bid are the Bidder's sole responsibility; no pre-bid costs will be reimbursed to any Bidder. All documentation submitted

with the proposal will become the property of the City of Flint.

h) Proposals must be held firm for a minimum of 120 days.

- 4) **EXCEPTIONS:** Bidder shall clearly identify any proposed deviations from the Terms or Scope in the Request for Proposals. Each exception must be clearly defined and referenced to the proper paragraph in this RFP. The exception shall include, at a minimum, the proposed substitute language and opinion as to why the suggested substitution will provide equivalent or better service and performance. If no exceptions are noted in the bid, the City of Flint will assume complete conformance with this specification and the successful Bidder will be required to perform accordingly. Bids not meeting all requirements may be rejected.
- 5) **DUPLICATE BIDS:** No more than one (1) bid from any Bidder including its subsidiaries, affiliated companies and franchises will be considered by the City of Flint. In the event multiple proposals are submitted in violation of this provision, the City will have the right to determine which bid will be considered or, at its sole option, reject all such multiple proposals.
- 6) **WITHDRAWAL:** Bids may only be withdrawn by written notice prior to the date and time set for the opening of bids. No bid may be withdrawn after the deadline for submission.
- 7) **REJECTION/GOOD STANDING:** The City of Flint reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to accept or reject any bid in part, and to waive any minor informality or irregularity in bids received if it is determined by the City of Flint, or their designee, that the best interest of the City will be served by doing so. No bid will be considered from any person, firm or corporation in arrears or in default to the City on any contract, debt, taxes or other obligation, or if the Bidder is debarred by the City of Flint from consideration for a contract award pursuant to Section 18-21.5 (d) of Article IV of the "Purchasing Ordinance of the City of Flint".
- 8) **PROCUREMENT POLICY:** Procurement for the City of Flint will be handled in a manner providing fair opportunity to all businesses. This will be accomplished without abrogation or sacrifice of quality and as determined to be in the best interest of the City. The City of Flint and their officials have the vested authority to execute a contract, subject to City Council and Mayoral approval where required.
- 9) **BID SIGNATURES:** Bids must be signed by an authorized official of the Bidder. Each signature represents binding commitment upon the Bidder to provide the goods and/or services offered to the City of Flint if the Bidder is determined to be the lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder.
- 10) **CONTRACT AWARD/SPLIT AWARDS:** The City of Flint reserves the right to award by item and/or group of items. The Bidder to whom the award is made will be notified at the earliest possible date. Tentative acceptance of the bid, intent to recommend award of a contract and actual award of the contract will be provided by written notice sent to the Bidder at the address designated in the bid if a separate Agreement is required to be executed. After a final award of the Agreement by the City of Flint, the Contractor/Vendor must execute and perform said Agreement. All proposals must be firm for at least 120 days from the due date of the proposal. If, for any reason, a contract is not executed with the selected Bidder within 14 days after notice of recommendation for award, then the City may

recommend the next lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

- 11) **NO RFP RESPONSE:** Bidders who receive this RFP but who do not submit a bid should return this RFP package stating “No Bid” and are encouraged to list the reason(s) for not responding. Failure to return this form may result in removal of the Bidder’s name from all future lists.
- 12) **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUIREMENTS:** Bids are subject to public disclosure after the deadline for submission in accordance with state law.
- 13) **ARBITRATION:** Contractor/Vendor agrees to submit to arbitration all claims, counterclaims, disputes and other matters in question arising out of or relating to this agreement or the breach thereof. The Contractor’s/Vendor’s agreement to arbitrate shall be specifically enforceable under the prevailing law of any court having jurisdiction to hear such matters. Contractor’s/Vendor’s obligation to submit to arbitration shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - a) Notice of demand for arbitration must be submitted to the City in writing within a reasonable time after the claim, dispute or other matter in question has arisen. A reasonable time is hereby determined to be fourteen (14) days from the date the party demanding the arbitration knows or should have known the facts giving rise to their claim, dispute or question. In no event may the demand for arbitration be made after the time when institution of legal or equitable proceedings based on such claim dispute or other matters in question would be barred by the applicable statute of limitation.
 - b) Within fourteen (14) days from the date that demand for arbitration is received by the City, each party shall submit to the other the name of one person to serve as an arbitrator. The two arbitrators together shall then select a third person, the three together shall then serve as a panel in all proceedings. Any decision concurred in by a majority of the three shall be a final binding decision.
 - c) The final decision rendered by said arbitrators shall be binding and conclusive and shall be subject to specific enforcement by a court of competent jurisdiction.
 - d) The costs of the arbitration shall be split and borne equally between the parties and such costs are not subject to shifting by the arbitrator.
 - e) This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement in perpetuity.
- 14) **BID HOLD:** The City of Flint may hold bids for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days from opening, for the purpose of reviewing the results and investigating the qualifications of bidders prior to making an award.
- 15) **NONCOMPLIANCE:** Failure to deliver in accordance with specifications will be cause for the City of Flint and they may cancel the contract or any part thereof and purchase on the open market, charging any additional cost to the Contractor/Vendor.
- 16) **DISCLAIMER OF CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP:** Nothing contained in these documents shall create

any contractual relationship between the City and any Subcontractor or Sub-subcontractor.

- 17) **ERRORS AND OMISSIONS:** Bidder is not permitted to take advantage of any obvious errors or omissions in specifications.
- 18) **INTERPRETATION:** In the event that any provision contained herein shall be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or an appropriate administrative tribunal to be contrary to the provision of law or to be unenforceable for any reason, then, to the extent necessary and possible to render the remainder of this Agreement enforceable, such provision may be modified or severed by such court or administrative tribunal having jurisdiction over this Agreement and the interpretation thereof, or the parties hereto, so as to, as nearly as possible, carry out the intention of the parties hereto, considering the purpose of the entire Agreement in relation to such provision.
- 19) **LAWS AND ORDINANCES:** The Bidder shall obey and abide by all of the laws, rules and regulations of the Federal Government, State of Michigan, Genesee County and the City of Flint, applicable to the performance of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, labor laws, and laws regulating or applying to public improvement, local government, and its operational requirements.
- 20) **LOCAL PREFERENCE:** Contractors/bidders located within the corporate city limits of Flint, Michigan may be given a seven percent (7%) competitive price advantage. Additionally, if the lowest responsible bidder is not located within the limits of the City of Flint, but is located within the County of Genesee, and said bidder does not exceed the bid of the lowest non-local bidder by more than three and one-half percent (3-1/2%), then said lowest Genesee County bidder may be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, and make the award to such Genesee County bidder accordingly, subject to the approval of the City Council. If the lowest non-local bidder does not exceed that of any Proposers/bidders by (7%) inside the City of Flint or (3-1/2%) inside the County of Genesee, then the Purchasing Director shall be allowed to request that the lowest local vendor match the price offered by the lowest non-local vendor.
- 21) **MATERIAL WORKMANSHIP AND STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE:** The Bidder agrees to exercise independent judgment and to complete performance under this Agreement in accordance with sound professional practices. In entering into this Agreement, the City is relying upon the professional reputation, experience, certification and ability of the Bidder by her/him/themselves or by others employed by her/him/them and working under their direction and control. The continued effectiveness of this Agreement during its term or any renewal term shall be contingent, in part, upon the Bidder maintaining her/his/their operating qualifications in accordance with the requirements of federal, state and local laws. All materials furnished must be new, of latest model and standard first grade quality, or best workmanship and design, unless otherwise expressly specified. Bidder, if required, must furnish satisfactory evidence of quality materials; offers of experimental or unproven equipment may be disregarded.
- 22) **MODIFICATIONS/CHANGES:** Any modification to this agreement must be in writing and signed by the authorized employee, officer, board or council representative authorized to make such modifications pursuant to the State law and local ordinances.

- 23) **NON-COLLUSION:** The Bidder acknowledges that by signing this document that she/he/they is/are duly authorized to make said offer on behalf of the company she/he/they represent(s) and that said bid is genuine and not sham or collusive and not made in the interests or on behalf of any person not therein named, and that she/he/they and said bidder have not directly induced or solicited any other person(s) or corporation to refrain from responding to this solicitation and that she/he/they and said bidder have not in any manner sought by collusion to secure to themselves and said bidder any advantage over any other bidder.
- 24) **NON-DISCRIMINATION:** Pursuant to the requirements of 1976 P.A. 453 (Michigan Civil Rights Act) and 1976 P.A. 220 (Michigan Handicapped Rights Act), the local unit and its agent agree not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status or because of a handicap that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of nondiscrimination provision identical to this provision and binding upon any and all contractors and subcontractors. A breach of this covenant shall be regarded as a material breach of this contract.
- 25) **SUBCONTRACTING:** No subcontract work shall be started prior to the written approval of the subcontractor by the City. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any subcontractor.
- 26) **UNION COMPLIANCE:** Bidder agrees to comply with all regulations and requirements of any national or local union(s) that may have jurisdiction over any of the materials, facilities, services or personnel to be furnished by the City.
- 27) **WAIVER:** Failure of the City to insist upon strict compliance with any of the terms, covenants or conditions of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of that term, covenant or condition or of any other term, covenant or condition. Any waiver or relinquishment of any right or power hereunder at any one or more times shall not be deemed a waiver or relinquishment of that right or power at any other time.
- 28) **CITY INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING:** Contractor and any subcontractor engaged in this contract shall withhold from each payment to his employees the City income tax on all of their compensation subject to tax, after giving effect to exemptions, as follows:
- a) Residents of the City:
At a rate equal to 1% of all compensation paid to the employee who is a resident of the City of Flint.
 - b) Non-residents:
At a rate equal to 1/2% of the compensation paid to the employee for work done or services performed in the City of Flint.
- These taxes shall be held in trust and paid over to the City of Flint in accordance with City ordinances and State law. Any failure to do so shall constitute a substantial and material breach of this contract.
- 29) **CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:** The invitation for proposal, instructions to proposal, proposal, affidavit, addenda (if any), statement of Bidder's qualifications (when required), general conditions, special

conditions, performance bond, labor and material payment bond, insurance certificates, technical specifications, and drawings, together with this agreement, form the contract, and they are as fully a part of the contract as if attached hereto or repeated herein.

- 30) **DISCLAIMER OF CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SUBCONTRACTORS:** Nothing contained in the Contract Documents shall create any contractual relationship between the City and any Subcontractor or Sub-subcontractor.
- 31) **EFFECTIVE DATE:** Any agreement between the City and the Bidder shall be effective upon the date that it is executed by all parties hereto.
- 32) **FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither party shall be responsible for damages or delays caused by Force Majeure nor other events beyond the control of the other party and which could not reasonably have anticipated the control of the other party and which could not reasonably have been anticipated or prevented. For purposes of this Agreement, Force Majeure includes, but is not limited to, adverse weather conditions, floods, epidemics, war, riot, strikes, lockouts, and other industrial disturbances; unknown site conditions, accidents, sabotage, fire, and acts of God. Should Force Majeure occur, the parties shall mutually agree on the terms and conditions upon which the services may continue.
- 33) **INDEMNIFICATION:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, Bidder agrees to defend, pay on behalf of, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Flint, its elected and appointed officials, employees and volunteers and others working on behalf of the City of Flint, including the Project Manager, against any and all claims, demands, suits, or losses, including all costs connected therewith, and for any damages which may be asserted, claimed, or recovered against or from the City of Flint, its elected and appointed officials, employees, volunteers or others working on behalf of the City of Flint, by reason of personal injury, including bodily injury or death and/or property damage, including loss of use thereof, which may arise as a result of Bidder's acts, omissions, faults, and negligence or that of any of his employees, agents, and representatives in connection with the performance of this contract. Should the Bidder fail to indemnify the City in the above-mentioned circumstances, the City may exercise its option to deduct the cost that it incurs from the contract price forthwith.

These provisions shall survive the termination or expiration of any agreement entered into as a result of this request.

- 34) **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:** No provision of this contract shall be construed as creating an employer-employee relationship. It is hereby expressly understood and agreed that Bidder is an “independent contractor” as that phrase has been defined and interpreted by the courts of the State of Michigan and, as such, Bidder is not entitled to any benefits not otherwise specified herein.
- 35) **NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARY:** No contractor, subcontractor, mechanic, material man, laborer, vendor, or other person dealing with the principal Contractor shall be, nor shall any of them be deemed to be, third-party beneficiaries of this contract, but each such person shall be deemed to have agreed (a) that they shall look to the principal Contractor as their sole source of recovery if not paid, and (b) except as otherwise agreed to by the principal Contractor and any such person in writing, they may not enter any claim or bring any such action against the City under any circumstances. Except as provided by law, or as otherwise agreed to in writing between the City and such person, each such person shall be deemed to have waived in writing all rights to seek redress from the City under any circumstances whatsoever.
- 36) **NON-ASSIGNABILITY:** Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this contract without the prior written consent of the City provided, however, that claims for money due or to become due to Contractor from the City under this contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution without such approval. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the City.
- 37) **NON-DISCLOSURE/CONFIDENTIALITY:** Contractor agrees that the documents identified herein as the contract documents are confidential information intended for the sole use of the City and that Contractor will not disclose any such information, or in any other way make such documents public, without the express written approval of the City or the order of the court of appropriate jurisdiction or as required by the laws of the State of Michigan.
- 38) **RECORDS PROPERTY OF CITY:** All documents, information, reports and the like prepared or generated by Contractor as a result of this contract shall become the sole property of the City of Flint.
- 39) **SEVERABILITY:** In the event that any provision contained herein shall be determined by a court or administrative tribunal to be contrary to a provision of state or federal law or to be unenforceable for any reason, then, to the extent necessary and possible to render the remainder of this Agreement enforceable, such provision may be modified or severed by such court or administrative tribunal so as to, as nearly as possible, carry out the intention of the parties hereto, considering the purpose of the entire Agreement in relation to such provision. The invalidation of one or more terms of this contract shall not affect the validity of the remaining terms.
- 40) **TERMINATION:** This contract may be terminated by either party hereto by submitting a notice of termination to the other party. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be effective 30 days from the date it is submitted unless otherwise agreed to by the parties hereto. Contractor, upon receiving such notice and prorated payment upon termination of this contract shall give to the City all pertinent

records, data, and information created up to the date of termination to which the City, under the terms of this contract, is entitled.

- 41) **TIME PERFORMANCE:** Contractor's services shall commence immediately upon receipt of the notice to proceed and shall be carried out forthwith and without reasonable delay.
- 42) **EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL:** In the City's evaluation of proposals, at minimum: cost, serviceability, financial stability, and all requirements set forth in this document shall be considered as selection and award criteria unless otherwise specified.
- 43) **PREVAILING WAGE:** When applicable, all work for this project, including that of any subcontractor or sub-subcontractor, must meet Davis-Bacon Act requirements and full prevailing wage. Information on Davis-Bacon reporting and requirements, including payroll reporting, can be found at: <https://www.dol.gov/whd/govcontracts/dbra.htm>
- 44) **INSURANCE & BONDS:** The bidder whose proposal is accepted will be required to furnish bonds and evidence of insurance within five days from date of Notice of Award. In case of failure or refusal on the part of the bidder to furnish bonds, if required, within the set period, the amount of deposit may be forfeited to the county and the contract may be awarded to the next lowest responsible bidder. Upon the notification of award and approval of the bond, the deposit will be returned to the proposer. The deposit of persons other than the one to whom and award is made will be returned to the person or persons making the proposal immediately after the contract and bonds have been executed.
- 45) **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:** Proposals and all information requested of the vendor shall be entered in the appropriate spaces. Failure to do so may disqualify the vendor's offer. An authorized officer or employee of the bidder shall submit the proposal.
- 46) **PRICES:** Prices proposed shall be for new products in current production unless otherwise specified. Where refurbished or discontinued items are offered they must be clearly identified as such. Prices proposed shall be exclusive of any rebates due the City. Any rebates the City may be entitled to should be shown as a separate line item and include expiration date. Corrections and/or modifications received after the bid closing time specified will not be accepted. Unit prices prevail.
All prices will be bid F.O.B. DESTINATION, INCLUDE ALL DELIVERY AND ANY ADDITIONAL CHARGES, and remain in effect as specified in the quotation.
- 47) **AWARD:** Unless otherwise stated in the proposal documents, the City cannot guarantee exclusivity of the contract for the proposed products or services.
Award of the proposal shall be based upon a combination of factors, including but not limited to, adherence to proposal requirements, references and any other factors that may be in the City's best interest.
The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any defect or irregularity in bids. The City reserves the right to accept and separate items in the bid;
and to accept the proposal that in the opinion of the City is to the best advantage and interest

of the public we serve. The City also has the right to re-solicit bids if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

The City reserves the right to reject low bids which have major deviations from our specification; to accept a higher quotation which has only minor deviations. By signing the bid, the vendor agrees to accept a split award unless the awarded vendor clearly indicates that it takes exception. The bid will be awarded to that responsible, responsive bidder whose proposal conforms to this solicitation, and will be most advantageous to the City, with regard not only to price, but also to availability of product, location and quality of product considered.

The City reserves the right to award all line items, to make no award or to award on an individual line item basis, whichever is deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Time of delivery may be a consideration in the award.

- 48) **ETHICS IN PURCHASING:** Bidders and proposers are required to comply with Flint City Ordinance 3865 in its entirety. It is incumbent upon and the responsibility of the bidder to become familiar with and comply with the Purchasing ordinances as outlined in 3865 covering chapter 18 of the Flint City Ordinances. Bidder/Proposer acknowledges in accordance with Flint City Ordinance Section 18-21.19 Ethics in Purchasing, any and all communication about the bid selection process should be directed to those City employees delegated with the authority with respect to all purchases of goods and services.

Bidder/Proposer acknowledges and agrees that while a procurement is pending, bidders and proposers shall not communicate about the solicitation with any City employee, agent, or elected official, other than the purchasing director or other City personnel identify in the solicitation. This means that bidder and proposer are prohibited from communicating orally or by written communications, including but not limited to voicemail messages, social media, email, in person, among any other form of communication while the award is pending, to the aforementioned, with the exception to those employees designated by the City. If you are unclear about the process, it is your duty and obligation to contact the designated employee(s) for clarification.

Violations of the ethics provision of the ordinance, without regard to if the violation rises to the level of a criminal violation, may subject the bidder or proposer to debarment.

- 49) **BID PROTESTS:** If Bidder/Proposal believe that they are aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the purchase order or contract, they may protest the action to the City as outlined in Flint City Charter Section 18-21.15.

PROPOSAL NO. 24000544
EMS BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING PAGES MUST BE COMPLETED AND INCLUDED WITH SUBMITTAL IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER.

Purchasing Checklist:

- Exhibit A - Complete Proposal Submittal with detailed Summary of Pricing
- Exhibit B –Qualifications and Licenses Requirements
- Exhibit C – Disclosure of Supplier Responsibility Statement
- Exhibit D - List of References
- Exhibit E - Certificate of Insurance
- Exhibit F – Non-Bidder’s Response

❖ EXHIBIT A - SUBMITTAL WITH DETAILED SUMMARY OF PRICING**PROPOSAL NO. 24000545
WATER & SANITARY SEWER RATE STUDY****SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The City of Flint is seeking qualified proposals for a comprehensive rate study of the City's water and sanitary sewer systems. The purpose of this study is to independently assess and evaluate the City's existing water and sewer rates, to promote community engagement regarding the city's water and sanitary sewer systems capital and financial needs, and to make recommendations on changes to the city's rate structure. The broad objective of the study is to minimize rates to the greatest extent possible while continuing to appropriately fund water and sewer utility operations and maintenance, capital expenditures for system improvements and replacements, asset management, and debt service.

The study will include a comprehensive review of the city's water and sewer funds, including historical revenues, expenses, and capital expenditures; current budgets; five-year plan; historical and projected customer growth; historical and projected consumption and usage data; current rate setting methodology; and any other information deemed necessary. Also included in this proposal is the review and evaluation of related sections of the City's Code of Ordinances.

The city seeks to ensure that the costs of providing quality water and sanitary sewer services are recovered through an economical, fair, equitable and efficient rate structure. The study will include evaluating the current water and sewer rate structure and comparing it to benchmarks in the industry as well as neighboring communities. The consultant shall develop a comprehensive plan that will support recommendations to the City Council regarding the City's water rate ordinance. The purpose of this study is to identify and recommend a water and sewer rate structure that is appropriate for the community we serve.

All deliverables and final products shall be provided to the city in the approved electronic AND printed format. In addition, all deliverables shall be compatible with current city software and furnished to the city in an editable electronic format.

The Scope of the project is as follows:

1. Meet with City staff to discuss and understand the City's goals for the rate study and concerns regarding water and sewer rates.
2. Review current water and sewer rate model and existing rate methodology.
3. Review of a historical water and sewer systems demand and billed customer use as well as collection rate(s).
4. Review and analysis of water and sewer fund's financial history, such as auditor reports.
5. Review of current year's water and sewer funds projection
6. Review of future capital expenditures and capital improvement program, effects on proposed rates, and recommendation of funding
7. Review of capital and operating reserves and projection of future requirements to meet replacement needs.

8. Analysis of existing rate structure for adequacy in meeting the following:
 - a. Cost of service expenses
 - b. Administrative costs
 - c. Debt Service requirements
 - d. Funding and level of reserve requirements
9. Analysis of base charge fee allocation
10. Recommendations for alternative cost allocation rate methods
11. Recommendation of a rate structure/model that will provide for a completely self-supporting system.
12. Develop financial projection and impacts of any rate recommendations.
13. By project deadline, submit to the city staff project deliverables:
 - a. Final report and presentation to the city staff
 - b. Rate model in Excel or other city-approved format for City's future use in ongoing, annual rate setting.
 - c. Recommendations for updating ordinances related to water and sewer rates and billing, as needed for implementation of recommendations.
14. Attend and present at two to three public meetings (City Council/Committee-related meetings):
 - a. Presentations to the Flint City Council
 1. First meeting will present the entire study and give detailed information.
 2. Second meeting will consider adoption of recommendations and consider approval of ordinances, if needed.
 3. (potentially) one Public Town Hall to share the information with the public prior to City Council adoption.

The final product will recommend a rate alignment for proper allocation of funds that is clear, concise, and defensible. The proposed updates to ordinances may include creating proper definitions and explanations of rate and fund appropriation.

The City's expectation is that the consultant will utilize the AWWA M1 manual and WEF M.O.P. #27 standards for utility rate making within Michigan as a guide. The recommended rate schedule should consider appropriate cash balances and be in compliance with EGLE recommendations, Michigan statutes, and case law, including the Bolt v Lansing decision. All recommendations must also comply with applicable Federal, State and Local accounting rules and best practices.

Providers must include all materials, personnel, and equipment needed. Interested parties must demonstrate qualifications, experience and abilities associated, to accomplish and support all aspects of the prescribed scope of work in a cost-effective manner.

The proposal includes a selection process to rate each applicant based on criteria laid out in this RFP. The scoring system will rate each applicant on their qualifications to help the selection committee recommend the firm that is most qualified to be awarded a contract.

GENERAL PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. **Cover page:** The proposal shall include the RFP title, date of submittal, company name, address etc. This page should also include the main point of contact.
2. **Work Plan and Deliverables:** A description of the consultant's understanding of the project objective outcomes and vision, and how these will be achieved. Include methodology explaining the tasks and address all the activities outlined in this RFP and Scope of Work. A timeline for completion should be included in the proposal.
3. **Related Experience:** Provide (3) similar projects that have been completed in the last 5 years. Please include Reference contact information.

4. **Local Knowledge:** Describe any previous experience your firm has with the City of Flint and any knowledge you have of the City's drinking water and sanitary sewer systems if applicable.
5. **Resume and Qualifications:** Identify any person(s) assigned to this project with a description of qualifications. Disclose any conflicts or potential conflicts with City employees, City Council, or any other board members and the nature of the conflict.
6. **Pricing:** The proposal shall include a complete scope of services and all associated costs and an explanation of how fees are to be calculated. The proposal shall include a maximum total not-to-exceed cost.
7. **Proposal form:** The bidder will complete the proposal including all documentation included in this RFP.

BACKGROUND

The City's water and sewer utilities are accounted for and reported as enterprise funds of the City. The water and sewer funds are financed and operated in a manner similar to a prove enterprise where the intent of the city is that the costs, including depreciation, of providing water and sanitary sewer services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

The City owns, operates, and maintains approximately 600 miles of distribution mains, sewer lines, lift stations, and water tower(s). The City provides water and sewer services to approximately 31,000 customers (as of 2014). Additional water resources can be found at cityofflint.com/utilities-and-water/. The current rates and related information is defined by the City's current Ordinance, which can be found at cityofflint.com/city-charter-and-code-of-ordinances/. To see additional fees and rates, please see The City of Flint's current Master Fee Schedule which can be found at cityofflint.com/documents/master-fee-schedule/.

❖ EXHIBIT B - QUALIFICATIONS AND LICENSES REQUIREMENTS

Please give a synopsis of your qualifications and experience with this service:

Please list Licenses:

How long have you been in business?

Have you done business with the City of Flint?

If yes, please state the project name.

❖ EXHIBIT C – DISCLOSURE OF SUPPLIER RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

1. List any convictions of any person, subsidiary, or affiliate of the company, arising out of obtaining, or attempting to obtain a public or private contract, or subcontract, or in the performance of such contract or subcontract.

2. List any convictions of any person, subsidiary, or affiliate of this company for offenses such as embezzlement, theft, fraudulent schemes, etc. or any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty which affect the responsibility of the contractor.

3. List any convictions or civil judgments under state or federal antitrust statutes.

4. List any violations of contract provisions such as knowingly (without good cause) to perform, or unsatisfactory performance, in accordance with the specifications of a contract.

5. List any prior suspensions or debarments by any government agency.

6. List any contracts not completed on time.

7. List any documented violations of federal or state labor laws, regulations or standards, or occupational safety and health rules.

❖ EXHIBIT D – LIST OF REFERENCES: (3) SIMILAR SCOPE OF WORK FROM THE LAST 5 YEARS

Providing the following contact information enables the City of Flint to contact those accounts as references.

Reference #1:

Company/Municipality: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Type of Project: _____

Project Timeline (Dates): _____ Budget: _____

Reference #2:

Company/Municipality: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Type of Project: _____

Project Timeline (Dates): _____ Budget: _____

❖ EXHIBIT D – LIST OF REFERENCES: (3) SIMILAR SCOPE OF WORK FROM THE LAST 5 YEARS (CONTINUES)

Reference #3:

Company/Municipality: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Type of Project: _____

Project Timeline (Dates): _____ Budget: _____

❖ EXHIBIT E – CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE**INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The Contractor shall notify all insurance agents and companies retained by the Contractor that these insurance requirements shall be included in any Agreement between the Contractor and the City of Flint.

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain, at its sole expense and as long as it is providing services to the City, the following insurance coverage:

Commercial General Liability - Occurrence form, including coverage for bodily injury, personal injury, property damage (broad form), premises/operations, blanket contractual, and products/completed operations. Coverage shall be endorsed to include the City as an additional insured for work performed by the Contractor in accordance with the Agreement.

Minimum Limits:

- \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 general aggregate
- \$2,000,000 aggregate for products and completed operations
- \$1,000,000 personal and advertising injury

Automobile - Michigan "no-fault" coverage, and residual automobile liability, comprehensive form, covering owned, hired, and non-owned automobiles. Coverage shall be endorsed to include the City as an additional insured for work performed by the Contractor in accordance with the Agreement.

Minimum Limits:

- No-fault coverages - statutory
- \$500,000 per person/\$1,000,000 per accident - bodily injury
- \$500,000 per occurrence - property damage
- A combined single limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability- Statutory coverage or proof acceptable to the City of approval as a self-insurer by the State of Michigan.

❖ EXHIBIT E – CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE (CONTINUES)

Minimum Limits:

- Workers' Compensation - statutory
- Employer's Liability - \$100,000 each accident/\$100,000 disease - each employee
- \$500,000 disease - policy limit

Professional Liability – Covering acts, errors or omissions of a professional nature committed or alleged to have been committed by the Contractor or any of its subcontractors. Coverage shall be effective upon the date of the Agreement and shall remain effective for a period of three (3) years after the date of final payment thereunder. Such coverage shall be endorsed to include any subcontractors hired by the City.

Minimum Limits:

- \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$1,000,000 annual aggregate

Insurance coverage shall cover all claims against the City of Flint, its officials and employees, arising out of the work performed by the Contractor or any subcontractors under the Agreement. Should any work be subcontracted, it shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to maintain Independent Contractor's Protective Liability Insurance with limits equal to those specified above for Commercial General Liability Insurance. In addition, the Contractor shall provide proof of Workers' Compensation Insurance for all subcontractors in compliance with the required statutory limits of the State of Michigan.

Said policies of insurance shall be with companies licensed to do business in the State of Michigan and in a form satisfactory to the City. All insurance companies must maintain a rating of B+, VIII or better from AM. Best Company. Certificates of insurance with a thirty-(30) day cancellation clause shall be filed with and approved by the City at least five (5) days in advance of commencing work under the Agreement. Cancellation, material restriction, non-renewal or lapse of any of the required policies shall be grounds for immediate termination of the Agreement by the City.

The City reserves the right to request a complete certified copy of the policies for the above coverage's.

Any reduction or exhaustion in the limits of required insurance coverage shall not be deemed to limit the indemnification afforded in accordance with the Agreement or any amendments thereto.

Depending on the subject matter of the transaction, the City may require other insurance coverage in addition to the coverage's contained herein.

THE BID NUMBER IS TO APPEAR ON ALL INSURANCE CERTIFICATES

❖ EXHIBIT F – NON-BIDDER’S RESPONSE

VENDOR’S NAME: _____

NON-BIDDER’S RESPONSE

For the purpose of facilitating your firm’s response to our invitation to bid, the City of Flint is interested in ascertaining reasons for prospective bidder’s failure to respond to “Invitations to Bid”. If your firm is not responding to this bid, please indicate the reason(s) by checking any appropriate item(s) below and return this form to the above address.

We are *not* responding to this “Invitation to Bid” for the following reason(s):

_____ Items or materials requested not manufactured by us or not available to our company.

_____ Our items and/or materials do not meet specifications.

_____ Specifications not clearly understood or applicable (too vague, too rigid, etc.).

_____ Quantities too Small.

_____ Insufficient time allowed for preparation of bid.

_____ Incorrect address used. Our correct mailing address is:

_____ Our branch / division handles this type of bid. We have forwarded this bid on to them but for the future the correct name and mailing address is: _____

_____ **OTHER:** _____

Thank you for your participation in this proposal.