



The City of Traverse City

Communication to the City Commission

FOR THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2009

DATE: JUNE 11, 2009

FROM: R. BEN BIFOSS, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CHEMICALS FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Attached are memos from Bob Cole, DPS Director, and the former Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, outlining the bids received for various chemicals for water treatment.

The following motion would be appropriate:

that the City Manager be authorized to issue blanket purchase/service orders for the purchase and delivery of chemicals to:

Lucier Chemical Industries, Ltd., dba LCI, Ltd., in the amount of \$713 per ton for approximately 40 tons of hydrofluosilicic acid totaling approximately \$28,520, more or less, and

K.A. Steel Chemicals, Inc., in the amount of \$0.62 per gallon for approximately 30,000 gallons of sodium hypochlorite totaling approximately \$18,600, more or less, and

Applied Specialties, Inc., in the amount of \$0.181 per pound for approximately 20,000 gallons (215,000 pounds) of aluminum sulfate polymer blend totaling approximately \$38,915, more or less

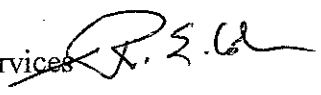
for use by the Water Treatment Plant, with funds available in the Water Fund.

rbb/ps

copy: Bob Cole, DPS Director
Water Treatment Plant Superintendent

Memorandum

TO: R. Ben Bifoss, City Manager

FROM: Bob Cole, Director of Public Services 

SUBJECT: Water Plant Chemical Purchases

DATE: June 8, 2009

Attached is a memorandum from Carl Holder, who retired as Water Plant Superintendent on May 31st, requesting annual purchase orders be issued to suppliers for various chemicals used at the Water Treatment Plant.

The Water Treatment Plant uses the chemicals for the following reasons:

- Hydrofluosilicic Acid (Fluoride): Added to drinking water to help prevent tooth decay.
- Sodium Hypochlorite (Chlorine): State-mandated disinfectant for drinking water.
- Aluminum Sulfate Polymer Blend (Alum): Used as a coagulant in the filtering process. In short, alum provides a medium for small particles of dirt to cling to so that they will not pass through the filters.

We are planning a study session on July 13th to examine the pros and cons of fluoride use, but until there is a decision to change our operations, we need to have a supplier of this chemical.

Please request City Commission approval for blanket purchase/service orders to Lucier Chemical Industries for Hydrofluosilicic Acid (Fluoride); to K.A. Steel Chemicals for Sodium Hypochlorite; and to Applied Specialties for Alum at the prices contained in Carl Holder's memo.

Memorandum

The City of Traverse City



TO: R. BEN BIFOSS, CITY MANAGER
FROM: CARL HOLDER, WATER PLANT SUPERINTENDENT
RE: CHEMICAL BIDS
DATE: 5/26/2009

We received the following bids for annual chemical supplies, used to treat our City drinking water. The bids and my recommendations are as follows.

HYDROFLUOSILICIC ACID:

One years supply of hydrofluosilicic acid. This chemical is added to the water supply to reduce tooth decay.

LCI LTD	\$713.00/ton
PVS Nolwood Chemicals	\$735.00/ton
Penco, Inc.	\$771.59/ton
Thatcher Company of Montana	\$778.22/ton
Solvay Fluorides, LLC	\$825.00/ton
JCI Jones Chemicals Inc.	No Bid
Webb Chemical Service Corp.	No Bid

I recommend the low bidder of LCI @ \$713.00/ton.

SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE:

One years supply of Sodium Hypochlorite to disinfect drinking water and control Zebra Mussels.

K.A. Steel Chemicals, Inc.	\$0.62/gal
Webb Chemical Service Corp.	\$0.80/gal
PVS Nolwood Chemicals	\$1.00/gal
Jones Chemicals Inc.	\$1.06/gal

I recommend the low bidder of K.A. Steel Chemicals, Inc. @ \$0.62/gal.

ALUMINUM SULFATE-Polymer Blend:

One years supply of Liquid Aluminum Sulfate Polymer-Blend (Alum) used as a coagulant to remove dirt, algae, and suspended material from drinking water.

Applied Specialties, Inc.	\$0.181/lb
General Chemical Performance Products LLC	\$0.229/lb
JCI Jones Chemical Inc.	No Bid
Webb Chemical Service Corp.	No Bid
KEMIRA Water	No Bid

I recommend the low bidder of Applied Specialties, Inc. @ \$0.181/lb.