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**DATE:** March 9, 2026

**TO:** Alderman Frost, Chair  
Members of the Finance and Personnel Committee

**FROM:** Jamie Rott, Water Superintendent  
Rebecca Tyo, Fire Chief

**RE:** **Award of RFP – Water Main Capacity – Fire Hydrant Flow Testing & Assessment (RFP 126-W-005)**

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### **CONTRACT DETAILS**

*Product/Service/Project:* Water Main Capacity – Fire Hydrant Flow Testing & Assessment

*Vendor:* M.E. Simpson Co., Inc. – Valparaiso, IN

*Contract Amount:* Based on a unit price of \$73 per hydrant (estimated contract value \$73,000)

*Contract Duration:* December 31, 2026 with an option to extend for an additional four (4) years in (1) year increments

*Funding Source:* Fire and Water Department Operating Budgets (50/50 cost-sharing)

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### **NARRATIVE**

The Fire Department and Water Division are recommending an award of RFP for the purpose of performing contractual water main capacity analysis and ISO fire hydrant flow testing. The results generated from the water main capacity analysis will identify areas that are in need of further study and analysis based on hydraulic performance. In addition, fire hydrants are vital components of our water distribution system. Not only do they provide fire suppression, but they also serve many other important operational functions as well. For example, insurance ratings and ISO certifications are based, in part, on hydrant condition, operability, accessibility, flow capacity, functionality, and adherence to ISO/AWWA standards. To that end, the purpose of this project is to increase the systematic evaluation of the water main and fire hydrants to ensure capability in providing adequate fire-flow, operability for any fire and operational uses, and adherence to industry standards; at all times.

The City of Rockford received two (2) proposals in response to the RFP. The proposals were evaluated based on firm experience, cost, previous work of a similar nature, and approach to scope. Based on that evaluation, staff recommends the award of RFP be awarded to M.E. Simpson Co., Inc., of Valparaiso, IN.

The funding source for this project is Fire Department and Water Division Operating Budgets (50/50 cost-sharing). The value of this contract is dependent on the number of fire hydrants field tested during the contract term. The anticipated cost for this project is estimated at \$73,000 in which 1,000 hydrants will be tested/inspected.

If you have any further questions, please contact Rebecca Tyo, Fire Chief, at (779) 500-6542 or Jamie Rott, Water Superintendent, at (779) 348-7654.

**RESOLUTION**  
**of the**  
**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS**  
**SUBMITTED BY: FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR WATER MAIN CAPACITY AND FIRE HYDRANT FLOW TESTING  
& ASSESSMENT

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WHEREAS, the Code of Ordinances for the City of Rockford, Illinois, provides as in Chapter 4, Article VI, Division 4, that all purchases for and contracts for supplies, materials, equipment, and contractual services, the value of which is estimated to exceed \$25,000, shall be based on competitive solicitation and awarded by the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, competitive proposals were received for the City of Rockford for the following:

WATER MAIN CAPACITY AND FIRE HYDRANT FLOW TESTING & ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS, the Finance and Personnel Committee of the City Council for the City of Rockford, Illinois has reviewed the proposals received for the aforementioned item(s) and recommends awarding the proposals as follows:

Vendor:	M.E. SIMPSON CO., INC. of VALPARAISO, IN
Estimated Contract Value:	\$73,000.00, BASED ON UNIT PRICING OF \$73 PER HYDRANT
Contract Duration:	ONE (1) YEAR WITH FOUR (4) ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS

WHEREAS, the Finance and Personnel Committee has determined that the funding for the aforementioned purchase shall be as follows:

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGETS (50/50 COST-SHARING)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Illinois that the Mayor execute an agreement with M.E. SIMPSON CO., INC. of VALPARAISO, IN for WATER MAIN CAPACITY AND FIRE HYDRANT FLOW TESTING & ASSESSMENT based on unit pricing, in the estimated contract value of \$73,000.00, subject to the specifications in the request for proposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be in full force and effective immediately upon its adoption and the Legal Director is hereby authorized to prepare and deliver certified copies of this Resolution to the Central Services Manager.

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Illinois, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

ATTEST:

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Thomas P. McNamara, Mayor  
City of Rockford, Illinois

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Angela L. Hammer, Legal Director and Ex-Officio  
Keeper of the Records and Seal  
City of Rockford, Illinois

Rockford, Illinois

Date: March 9, 2026

**RECOMMENDATION FOR RESOLUTION**

**TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKFORD:**

Council Members:

The Committee on Finance and Personnel having received a request hereby begs leave to report recommending **approval** of the agreement with M.E. SIMPSON CO, INC. of VALPARAISO, IN for WATER MAIN CAPACITY AND FIRE HYDRANT FLOW TESTING & ASSESSMENT in the estimated annual amount of \$73,000.00 based on unit pricing. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate resolution.

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Kevin Frost (Chair)

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Jonathan Logemann (Vice chair)

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Frank Beach

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Dawn Granath

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Chad Tuneberg

Committee Action Taken:

Frost:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Logemann:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Beach:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Granath:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Tuneberg:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___

	<b>Water Main Capacity-Fire Hydrant Flow Testing &amp; Assessment Program – RFP 126-W-005</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Hydromax</b>	<b>ME Simpson</b>
Scope of Work, Project Approach and Project Management (25 points max)	22	25
Firm Experience (30 points max)	28.25	29.25
Experience of Key Personnel (30 points max)	26.25	29.25
Proposal Price (15 points max)	5.5	14.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>98.25</b>