

CITY OF SUNSET HILLS, MISSOURI

MEMORANDUM

To: Bryson E. Baker, PE

From: Wesley E. Searcy

Date: February 8, 2023

Re: Concrete Slab Replacements - Tabulation & Recommendation

Here is a paste of the bid results posted at the City of Sunset Hills website for the 2023 Concrete Slabs Package:

- o **2-7-23** - Bids for this project were received as follows:

	Bidder	7" Slabs (SF)	Cut Joints (LF)	Total Bid (\$)	Extra Rock (/ton)
1	Groundworks (Breese, IL)	\$72.00	\$1.75	\$233,927.75	\$29.00
2	Keely Restoration Services	\$78.21	\$3.00	\$254,149.08	\$14.00
3	Next Level Construction	\$87.50	\$5.00	\$284,405.00	\$65.00
4	M&H Concrete	\$89.80	\$15.00	\$292,285.40	\$40.00
5	Lanke Trenching & Exc.	\$90.00	\$20.00	\$293,140.00	\$45.00
6	Spencer Contracting	\$95.40	\$6.00	\$310,105.20	\$40.00
7	E. Meier Contracting	\$104.50	\$7.00	\$339,703.00	\$200.00
8	Raineri Construction	\$110.00	\$50.00	\$359,280.00	\$75.00

(Math verified as correct)

Bidding this work at this time of year was apparently a good decision as we got 8 bids and better pricing. The process was smooth too, especially once we knew the budget was good in December. We will try to keep this schedule for slab replacement work going forward. I know there is a preference to see all bid documents. I have them in file if that interest is still prevalent. With the added documentation of the new bid document process implemented for the City Attorney, we have an inch thick set of papers for these 8 bids.

For reference, here is a paste of the 2022 bid tabulation for selected concrete slab work:

- o **5-3-22** - Bids for this project were received as follows:

	Bidder	7" Slabs (SF)	Cut Joints (LF)	Total Bid (\$)	Extra Rock (/ton)
1	M&H Concrete	\$85.00	\$4.00	\$283,111.00	\$40.00
2	Lamke Trenching	\$104.60	\$10.00	349,351.20	\$75.00

The city has not yet worked with Groundworks of Breese, IL. In talking to the references listed in their documents, Groundworks does quite a bit of sub-contract work in the light industrial and residential development arenas. The work is sizeable as you will see if the responses below and Groundworks claims to have 30+ employees.

References:

1. **Johannes Construction – Preston – 618-322-3605** – Preston Johannes (Construction Manager) said his company is out of Centralia, IL and Groundworks placed some foundations for some metal buildings as a sub-contractor. The Groundworks contract amount on this job at about \$750K. He said they staffed the job well and helped them to deliver the completed project on time & within budget. Preston commented that once they made it to site, the work was completed in short order and in a competent manner. I asked him how they performed with regard to sensitivities of those around the job site. Preston responded they were overall good to work with for this project. I asked how he felt they would perform on a flatwork job in the St. Louis Area, and he felt this would be a project they would perform well.
2. **KB Contracting – Mike – 618-960-6394** – Mike Thomas of KB Contracting of Waterloo, IL said that he's had Groundworks Contracting on a couple of projects. He said he currently has them under contract for the placement of entire pavement for a 30-lot subdivision. He said they had not only the pavement, but utility placement of the project worth about \$800K. I asked him about sensitivities to the needs of the project and Mike responded that this project was a second plat going through an existing 50 lot subdivision. He said Groundworks was responsive to need and requests to keeping this street clean from the job site.
3. **City of Aviston, IL – Gary – 618-623-8361** - I was able to get through to Gary Rakers of the Village of Aviston, IL Maintenance. He said Aviston only had one storm sewer/curbing project with Groundworks of about \$50-75K in size. Gary said he was quite pleased with their follow-up and response as concerns arose on the project. I also heard from Village President Mike Kampwerth who indicated that this project was more like about \$180K in size. He said it was a design/build curb sewer project in their commercial district under a CID. Mike said the project went well, that monies were paid direct by the Village to the suppliers eliminating the need for material lien waivers. I asked about resident awareness and he said he had one, very particular resident at the end of the project who was initially upset with the project, but by the end of it, he was bringing the workers refreshments.

I called Jason Richter who is the President of Groundworks Contracting, Inc. I asked him of the confidence he had in his bid numbers that are 8.6% below the second low bid. He responded he is confident in his number. I also asked him about his confidence in mobilizing and performing this project in St. Louis. He said that was not an issue in that he works in some cases even farther out. I asked if he has his own trucks contemplated for this project or if they will be contracted out. Jason felt his trucks would be used on this project. I asked when we could expect to hit the slate for work. Jason responded that the end of March is contemplated to try to accommodate the weather.

The paperwork for the bid appears in order with Bid Bond. With the favorable references and expressed contractor confidence, staff recommendation would be to award this project to Groundworks Contracting, Inc. of Breese, IL.

We do have a request from a member of the Vee-Jay family who asked if they could have preferential consideration as a resident contractor. That is Next Level Construction owned by Charlie & Sal Vitale. They state their office is also located in Sunset Hills. I calculate their third lowest bid at 21.6% higher than Groundworks Contracting, Inc.