CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2024-627 – Approving a contract with Garver, LLC to provide engineering/architectural design, plans, specifications, and pre-construction administration services for a new Veteran's Memorial Park and/or an American Legion Facility.

MEETING DATE
November 4, 2024

ORIGINATING DEPT
Parks and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS
CB 2024-627 Ordinance; Exhibit "A" Scope of Services and Fee provided by Garver, LLC; Exhibit "B" Joplin Garver, LLC. Consulting Agreement; Exhibit "C" Veteran's Memorial Park RFQ; Exhibit "D" Garver, LLC. SOQ American Legion Facility & Veteran's Memorial Park; Exhibit "E" Veteran's Memorial Park Overall Summary of Scores

REVIEWED BY
Department Head: Leslie Haase; Parks Director: Paul Bloomberg; City Attorney: Peter Edwards; City Manager: Nick Edwards

SUMMARY
This Council Bill approves a contract with Garver, LLC. in the amount of $149,481 to provide engineering/architectural design, plans, specifications, and construction administration services for a new Veteran's Memorial Par and/or an American Legion Facility.

BACKGROUND
For nearly 100 years, Memorial Hall has played a dynamic role in our community. It was built in 1925 as a war veteran memorial to honor the men and women who gave their lives for our freedoms. It has served as the mainstay to welcome home our soldiers and provided a gathering place for Veteran's' activities, their associations, and meetings. Through the years, citizens attended concerts, plays, sporting events and community programs. With such a wide history of activity, it holds many memories for the community and region.

Unfortunately, this 95-year-old building has fallen in disrepair and needs to be demolished. Two recent analyses conducted by SFS Architecture in 2021 and 2024 revealed deterioration in the original building structure and construction renovations, failed roofing support systems and foundations, along with various environmental hazards from decades of moisture intrusion and building settling.

In June of 2024, the Joplin City Council recommended the building be demolished and the site be developed as the Joplin Veteran's Memorial Park. Given its history, the building holds significant war memorials and related artifacts to be preserved and incorporated into the future park. The building itself is a memorial and we expect some architectural design features may be retained or incorporated into the design and future park if possible. Strategies and methods for educating on and incorporating the history and significance of the site should be included in this design.

August 5, 2024, an RFQ for proposals was issued and on September 9, 2024, the following proposals were received in response to the American Legion Facility and Veteran's Memorial Park:

- Garver, LLC.
- DG2 Design
- SWT Design
- Olsson Studio
- RDG Planning and Design
- Stone Group Architects
- Stantec
- Hight Jackson Associates
- BRP Architects
- Planning Design Studio

A city staff team was assembled, and each staff member independently evaluated the proposal responses and scored them based on proposal evaluation process provided in the RFQ document. Once evaluated four firms were selected to be interviewed. Those firms were:

- Garver, LLC
- DG2 Design
- SWT Design
- Olsson Studio

Finalist interviews were held Tuesday, October 1st, 2024. A list of questions was provided to each finalist prior to their presentation. The finalists were asked to address the questions in their presentation and each team was given 30 minutes to present, with 15 minutes for questions. The presentations occurred as virtual meetings. The presentation teams represented the staff that would be assigned to work on the project.

City staff scored the finalist presentations on a 50-point basis with 20 points for methodology, 15 points for experience and 15 points for staff. Each staff member independently scored each finalist. A summary of the final scores and detailed comments related to the final scores is attached for your review. Garver, LLC. had the highest score and has submitted the best overall proposal.

FUNDING SOURCE

This Council Bill includes a general fund budget amendment in the amount of $149,481.00 for fiscal year 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this council bill on first reading.