

Memo

To: Town Manager/Select Board
From: Brian Sanderson
Date: September 16, 2013
Subject: Barlow Avenue Paving

Bid requests for Barlow Avenue paving were sent to 6 contractors. The Town received 2 proposals. Please find the following results:

1. Wilk Paving – Estimated Tonnage = 360 Ton
Unit Cost/Ton = \$106
Project Total = \$38,160
2. D&F Paving – Estimated Tonnage = 325 Ton
Unit Cost/Ton = \$100
Project Total = \$32,500
3. Wilk Sealing – No bid
4. Fuller Sand & Gravel – No bid
5. Whitcomb Construction – No bid
6. Pike Industries – No bid

While both contractors met with me in the field to discuss the proposed project, Wilk Paving spent a considerable amount of more time with me to go over the project in great detail. The major issue with Barlow Avenue is drainage as there is no established collection system of catch-basins and/or culverts. Combined with a substantial hill on the south end of the road, storm water control is an important factor in determining pavement slopes, grades, berms and driveway swales. The Wilk paving representative helped me to develop a plan of remediation for storm water and he examined every inch of Barlow Avenue, specifically focusing on the hill area, in order to control storm-water flows in order to protect the road, preserve private property within the right-of-way (from related erosion) and to make property owner's driveway transitions functional and smooth as possible. The hill area will require the installation of paved berms (at grassy intersections) and paved swales (at driveway aprons) in order to channel storm-water into the existing ditch. My estimate of pavement quantity for Barlow Avenue road surface only is 314 tons. The added berm/swale work will require additional tonnage that I believe was not considerably factored into the D&F Paving bid (325 tons) but was reflected more accurately in the Wilk Paving bid (360 tons).

I realize that cost savings is very important for the Town, but I also believe that “cheaper is not always better”. While I do believe that D&F Paving is a reputable company that does quality work, I believe that Wilk Paving has a better handle on what needs to be accomplished with the Barlow Avenue resurfacing project in order to protect all vested parties. Therefore, it is my recommendation that the Select Board offer the Barlow Avenue paving bid to Wilk Paving, not to exceed the cost of \$38, 160 (the current year budget figure for Resurfacing is \$40,000).

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I have included P.O.s for both contractors if the Select Board deems that that D&F Paving should be awarded the bid in order to save the Town \$5,660.

Thank you for your consideration with this matter.

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