

Encl. #10.16
May 26, 2011

RESOLVED, that the Horseheads Central School District Board of Education awards the bid for the 2010 Capital Projects baseball field netting at the High School to Elmira Structures, Inc. Total net contract amount is \$26,500.

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PROJECT MEMO

To: Ralph Marino, Ed.D. Superintendent
Horseheads Central School District
Date: March 22, 2011
From: David McDonald
Re: **2010 Capital Projects Baseball Field Netting at High School**
Bid Results & Recommendations

I. BACKGROUND

Last spring the Horseheads Central School District athletic department staff identified a problem with usage of the varsity baseball field and the adjacent tennis courts and running track. Occasionally a foul ball will be hit beyond the confines of the 24' high chain link home plate fencing. The foul balls that are not blocked by the fence may land at the south end of the running track or the pavement in the area of the tennis courts.

To address the problem we developed a plan for increasing the height to 50' by adding 26' of fabric fencing above the current chain link fencing. And, at the request of the staff, we included the same 50' high fencing along the two foul lines to the ends of the spectator bleaches beyond the dugout.

We bid the work last summer using a proprietary system of pressure treated wood utility poles and 1-3/4" x 1-3/4" polyester mesh netting. When the bids came in the low bid was for \$ 45,000. Since the work was to be included in the 2010 Capital Project funding we did not want to award the contract until the rest of the basic work was completed and the available remaining funds could be established. Now that the other contract work is done we find that there is only approximately \$ 30,000 for this work. Since the "base bid" for the entire installation was well over \$ 30,000 we broke the work up into three areas, the main area directly behind home plate and either foul line. In addition, the low original bidder suggested that we bid nylon netting as an option since they had received a lower cost quote from a supplier with that change.

BIDDING ACTIVITY

In rebidding the work we did bid a series of alternates to adjust the scope to the available funds. The alternates were as follows:

- Alt. No. 1: Delete East Side polyester netting at spectator seating
- Alt. No. 2: Delete West Side polyester netting at spectator seating
- Alt. No. 3: Substitute Nylon netting for Polyester netting for the whole installation
- Alt. No. 4: Delete East Side nylon netting at spectator seating
- Alt. No. 5: Delete West Side nylon netting at spectator seating

The work was advertised in the District's legal newspaper and the previous bidders were advised of the work.

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III. BID RESULTS

Even though the work was advertised, only one bid was received from the previous low bidder, **Elmira Structures, Inc.**

Their "Base Bid" for the full scope of work using polyester netting rose \$ 500 to \$ 45,500.

Their "Alternate" bids for reducing the scope of the work ranged from \$ 39,400 for deleting the foul line fencing at both sides, but keeping the polyester netting to \$ 26,500 to use nylon netting behind the backstop and eliminating the foul line fencing at both sides.

Since we have only \$ 30,000 to expend, the last option is the only one that can be considered.

One question that was raised by the Facilities Department was the difference in performance between the polyester and nylon. Our engineer discussed this with a major supplier. The supplier, Cascade Nets, Inc. is a major source of both type of netting. What he said was that the polyester fabric comes from off-shore suppliers so there is shipping cost differential making it more expensive. In terms of performance, the nylon is approximately 30-40% stronger ((tensile strength 209 lb vs. 150 lb). The nylon netting lasts 8-12 years on average. The polyester last somewhat less but it is less prone to ultraviolet radiation (UV) damage. The nylon netting does have a coating on it to minimize UV damage. UV damage is more of an issue in southern or sunny climates, not in the Northeast. So that is not a major advantage here.

Based on the higher tensile strength, longer service life and lower cost for the nylon netting we would recommend that the following work be awarded to:

**Elmira Structures, Inc.
66 Philo Road West
Elmira, NY 14903**

◦ Base Bid Amount:	\$ 45,500.00
◦ Deduct Alternate 3:	(\$ 3,500.00)
◦ Deduct Alternate 4:	(\$ 7,500.00)
◦ Deduct Alternate 5:	<u>(\$ 8,000.00)</u>
Total Net Contract Amount:	\$ 26,500.00