

To: Warden and Members of County Council

From: Director of Public Works

Contract Award – Victoria Street Reconstruction, Norwich

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That County Council award a contract to the low bidder, Viewcon Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$1,327,053 (excluding HST) for the reconstruction of Victoria Street from Main Street (Oxford Road 18) to Brock Street in the Township of Norwich;**
- 2. And further, that Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Public Works to sign all documents related hereto.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The purpose of this report is to obtain County Council approval to award the above-noted project to Viewcon Construction Ltd., in accordance with the County Purchasing Policy.
- This is a collaborative project between Oxford County and Township of Norwich. Proposed capital improvements include roadway reconstruction/urbanization, sanitary sewer repairs, storm sewer installation and watermain replacement to ensure that critical municipal infrastructure is kept in a state of good repair.
- The proposed capital improvements have been harmonized into one integrated project in order to minimize the extent of road travel disruption to the community and maximize cost efficiencies via project bundling.
- Construction is anticipated to begin in June 2022 and be completed by September 2022.

Implementation Points

Upon Council approval, a contract will be executed with the low bidder, Viewcon Construction Ltd., prior to proceeding with the work.

Victoria Street will be closed from Main Street to Brock Street during construction in order to accommodate the planned works; however, access for local residents and emergency services will be maintained as required.

A temporary potable water system will be installed as required to maintain safe and clean drinking water service to residents during the replacement of the existing system.

Financial Impact

The approved 2022 budget for this project is \$1,550,000 to fund all proposed capital infrastructure improvements. The construction costs and funding sources for this project are summarized in Table 1 below. The contract low bid amount received is within the approved 2022 budget amount.

Table 1: Funding Summary for *Victoria Street Reconstruction*

2022 Budget Summary Account / Description	Available 2022 Budget	Bid Amount (excluding HST)
950450 – Norwich Sanitary Replacements (Approved budget: \$1,000,000) (Less other projects: \$100,000)	\$900,000	\$821,116
960400 – Township Water Distribution Replacements (Approved budget: \$950,000) (Less other projects: \$300,000)	650,000	505,937
Subtotal	\$1,550,000	\$1,327,053
Estimated Contract Administration; Inspection & Materials Testing		\$97,868
Non-Refundable HST (1.76%)		\$25,079
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES		\$1,450,000

Based on the low bid pricing, an estimated \$820,000 is cost recoverable from the Township of Norwich for construction costs of Township assets (proposed storm sewer system and roadwork) and a portion of project engineering and contract administration/inspection services being provided by Oxford County Public Works, budgeted under capital job 950450. A budget of \$820,000 for this project is included in the Township of Norwich’s 2022 Capital Plan.

Communications

The communication strategy for this construction project will be similar to other County projects. The Contractor’s project manager and the County’s project manager will form an open channel of communication and will include other members of the project team as needed. These communications will commence upon approval of this report and will continue for the duration of the project.







This is a collaborative joint venture project between Oxford County and Township of Norwich; therefore, scope of work and planned schedule were mutually established, and further communication is planned prior to and throughout construction.

A Notice of Construction letter will be delivered to nearby property owners, along with posting of construction signage at the project location in advance to alert the general public. In consultation with the Township, County Public Works will arrange a pre-construction meeting for residents prior to construction. The Notice of Construction will also be posted to the Oxford County website. It is not expected that there are any businesses that will be impacted by this project.

Regulatory authorities and emergency services will receive advanced notice of road closures through *Municipal511* notifications circulated by Public Works. Road updates are also posted to the County's social media channels.

Staff will continue to work with affected stakeholders during the execution of this project as required to ensure the appropriate level of communication and outreach is maintained, and further ensuring all parties involved are updated on project status and outcomes as needed.

Strategic Plan (2020-2022)

					
WORKS WELL TOGETHER	WELL CONNECTED	SHAPES THE FUTURE	INFORMS & ENGAGES	PERFORMS & DELIVERS	POSITIVE IMPACT
1.i.	2.i.	3.iii.		5.ii.	

DISCUSSION

Background

Victoria Street is a local road located in the north-east quadrant of the community of Norwich. The Township of Norwich's 2017 *Road Needs Study* identified the road section of Victoria Street, from Main Street to North Court Street, as deficient (having a low condition rating) and in need of full depth reconstruction. Accordingly, reconstruction/urbanization of this road section is proposed, which generally includes the following scope of work:

- Full replacement of the pavement structure (approximately 400 m road length) in accordance with Township standards;
- Improved drainage features including curb and gutter and storm sewer replacement;
- Sidewalk installation/replacement to promote active transportation and provide pedestrian system continuity;
- Coordinated replacement of the existing water distribution system (including approximately 440 m of watermain) and select repairs to the wastewater collection system (Oxford County infrastructure);
- Paving; and
- Surface restorations including driveway aprons and sodding of boulevards.

The existing aged water distribution system on Victoria Street between North Court Street and Brock Street (including approximately 180 m of watermain) will also be replaced as part of this project. Upon completion, this street block will be resurfaced with asphalt, and all areas disturbed from water system works will be restored as required.

A map identifying the project site location (approximately 600 m of total road length) is included as Attachment 1 to this report.

The project has been planned and designed in collaboration with Township of Norwich staff.

Comments

Prior to tender, Public Works advertised for the pre-qualification of General Contractors. Seventeen Contractors expressed interest, and a total of 13 Contractors were pre-qualified. The evaluation of submissions was based on a number of factors including Contractors' previous project experience with similar projects of scope and size, overall management team background and experience managing projects of this scale.

As this project has the possible risks that would be associated with any construction project of this scale and scope, the successful Contractor is also required to secure construction bonds and insurance to mitigate risks related to the exposure of financial loss.

After the prequalification process, County staff solicited bids from the eligible pre-qualified Contractors and the project was tendered through a competitive bidding process. County staff received the following five bids at tender close on Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Table 2: Summary of Bid Submissions

Contractor	Bid Amount (HST Excluded)
1. Viewcon Construction Ltd.	\$1,327,053
2. Oxford Civil Group Inc.	\$1,378,572
3. Beech Infrastructure Group Ltd.	\$1,396,128
4. Euro Ex Construction	\$1,492,121
5. Sierra Infrastructure Inc.	\$1,618,355

Staff have reviewed the submissions and confirmed that the low bid received from Viewcon Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$1,327,053 (excluding HST), represents good value for the work.

Should the contract not be awarded and the work does not proceed, the condition of the County's and the Township's affected assets will continue to deteriorate.

Conclusions

Review of the competitive bid submissions confirms that it is appropriate to award the proposed road reconstruction works on Victoria Street to the low bidder, Viewcon Construction Ltd. of Woodstock, Ontario.

SIGNATURES

Report Author:

Original signed by

Jesse Keith, P.Eng.
Project Engineer

Departmental Approval:

Original signed by

David Simpson, P.Eng., PMP
Director of Public Works

Approved for submission:

Original signed by

Michael Duben, B.A., LL.B.
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1 - Project Location Map, March, 2022