



City of Grand Forks
Staff Report
City Council – 1/05/2026

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

01/05/2026

Maureen Storstad
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City Auditor

Agenda Item: 2026 Chemical Bid Approval for Water/Wastewater Treatment, Bid #2025-12

Submitted by: John Goetz, Manager Regional Water Treatment Plant,
Melanie Parvey Water Works Director

Staff Recommended Action: To approve recommended bids per attached summary and associated budget amendments.

Council Action: Motion by Sande., second by Berg to approve as recommended.
Motion passed 5-2 with Fridolfs and Osowski dissenting.

BACKGROUND: Treatment chemicals are bid on an annual basis. There are various prerequisites for acceptable bidders based on plant trials, product quality, packaging, and availability to the Grand Forks Regional Water (RWTP) or Grand Forks Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), as specified.

Bid summary information is tabulated for eighteen products used in the following processes:

Pretreatment Coagulation: Alum, Poly Aluminum Chloride and Sulfuric Acid

Softening: Hydrated Lime, Sodium Aluminate

Stabilization: Liquid Polyphosphate, Sodium Hydroxide

Recarbonation: Carbon Dioxide

Disinfection: Chlorine, Ammonia and Oxygen

Fluoridation: Hydrofluosilicic Acid

Membrane: Citric Acid, Hydrochloric Acid, Sodium Bisulfite, Sodium Hypochlorite

Wastewater Treatment: Polymer and Sodium Hydroxide

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- Recommendation is to accept the low bidder for all chemicals bid as noted on the bid summary.
- Historical information on chemical bid pricing has been included in the support materials. This information demonstrates fluctuations in chemical costs. In discussion with the suppliers the cost fluctuations are influenced by shortages of raw materials, demand for the product in other markets, and the cost of transportation. Water Plant staff continue to treat a blend source water to optimize chemical feed systems and look at alternative chemicals through plant trials as a means of controlling costs.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Bid summary and recommendations.
- Historical bid price information
- Fluoride Data

TONS BID	CHEMICAL NAME	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 Cost per Ton	2026 Cost per Ton	Increase	% Increase	Bid Cost 2026
525	ALUM	\$461.00	\$453.00	\$453.00	\$449.00	\$439.00	\$454.00	\$429.00	\$423.00	\$430.00	\$421.00	\$480.00	\$ 527.00	\$ 262.00	\$ 277.00	\$ 299.00	\$ 22.00	7%	\$156,975.00
15	AMMONIA	\$3,500.00	\$3,640.00	\$4,160.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00	\$3,960.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,320.00	\$4,420.00	\$4,420.00	\$5,180.00	\$ 6,760.00	\$ 6,940.00	\$ 6,920.00	\$ 7,120.00	\$ 200.00	3%	\$106,800.00
171	CARBON DIOXIDE	\$147.50	\$150.00	\$152.00	\$168.70	\$185.00	\$174.00	\$174.00	\$171.98	\$168.90	\$168.90	\$190.00	\$ 222.00	\$ 222.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 236.00	\$ 31.00	13%	\$40,356.00
60	CHLORINE	\$568.00	\$504.50	\$485.90	\$506.80	\$494.00	\$492.00	\$529.00	\$539.00	\$532.00	\$527.50	\$1,385.00	\$ 2,460.00	\$ 2,428.00	\$ 2,428.00	\$ 2,375.00	\$ (53.00)	-2%	\$142,500.00
10	CITRIC ACID									\$1,133.20	\$1,050.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 2,220.00	\$ 1,960.00	\$ 1,870.00	\$ (90.00)	-5%	\$18,700.00
1100	LIME-Hydrated	\$209.50	\$211.75	\$216.00	\$224.60	\$226.60	\$232.00	\$236.60	\$243.70	\$247.00	\$248.50	\$254.50	\$ 301.50	\$ 328.05	\$ 345.45	\$ 364.40	\$ 18.95	5%	\$400,840.00
400	LIQUID OXYGEN									\$289.92	\$281.00	\$198.00	\$ 259.60	\$ 238.00	\$ 156.98	\$ 231.00	\$ 74.02	32%	\$92,400.00
55	HYDROFLUOSILICIC ACID	\$828.00	\$750.00	\$680.00	\$698.00	\$642.00	\$510.00	\$460.00	\$480.00	\$440.00	\$490.00	\$595.00	\$ 940.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 970.00	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 200.00	17%	\$64,350.00
12	HYDROCHLORIC ACID DRUM									\$555.40	\$535.20	\$750.00	\$ 1,140.00	\$ 1,210.00	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 1,190.00	\$ (35.00)	-3%	\$14,280.00
40	SODIUM ALUMINATE	\$1,149.00	\$1,220.00	\$1,210.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,297.00	\$1,355.00	\$1,470.00	\$1,580.00	\$1,620.00	\$1,140.00	\$1,230.00	\$ 1,970.00	\$ 1,990.00	\$ 1,780.00	\$ 1,560.00	\$ (220.00)	-14%	\$62,400.00
12	SODIUM BISULFITE TOTE									\$640.00	\$610.00	\$770.00	\$ 840.00	\$ 890.00	\$ 890.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 10.00	1%	\$10,800.00
0	SODIUM BISULFITE DRUM									\$718.40	\$680.00	\$810.00	\$ -				\$ -		\$0.00
55	SODIUM HYPCHLORITE TOTE									\$560.00	\$540.00	\$580.00	\$ 790.00	\$ 780.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 780.00	\$ (30.00)	-4%	\$42,900.00
950	SODIUM HYDROXIDE BULK									\$330.00	\$320.00	\$519.00	\$ 659.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 445.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 155.00	26%	\$570,000.00
13	SODIUM HYDROXIDE TOTE									\$485.20	\$472.60	\$750.00	\$ 1,040.00	\$ 980.00	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 1,010.00	\$ -	0%	\$13,130.00
430	SULFURIC ACID									\$202.00	\$178.40	\$247.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 276.00	\$ 315.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 60.00	16%	\$161,250.00
500	PACL									\$536.00	\$487.00	\$681.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 711.00	\$ 756.00	\$ 790.00	\$ 34.00	4%	\$395,000.00
75	POLYPHOSPHATE-Liquid									\$939.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,570.00	\$ 2,440.00	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 1,620.00	\$ (20.00)	-1%	\$121,500.00

CHEMICALS NOT BID

6.38	ANTISCALENT RO												\$8,560	\$8,560	\$9,002.00	\$9,002.00	\$ -	0%	\$57,432.76
14.7	SOFTENER SALT												\$355.60	\$360.00	\$380.40	380.40	\$ -	0%	\$5,591.88
15.1	EarthTec QZ													\$4,440	\$4,440	\$4,440	\$ -	0%	\$67,044.00
0	High pH Cleaner												\$4,536						
0	Low pH Cleaner												\$9,862						

\$2,544,249.64

Waste Water Chemical

100	WWTP CATIONIC POLYMER		\$2,420.00	\$2,900.00	\$2,360.00	\$1,860.00	\$1,774.00	\$2,080.00	\$2,480.00	\$2,540.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,120.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 3,820.00	\$ 3,520.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ (560.00)	-19%	\$296,000.00
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