City of Grand Forks
Staff Report

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council
01/05/2026
Maureen Storstad
City Auditor

City Council – January 5, 2026

Agenda Item: Bids for City Project No. 9076 – 2026-27 Electrical Services Contract

Submitted by: Engineering Department, David Kuharenko, PE (Assistant City Engineer)
Rick Hanson (Electrical Division Manager)

Staff Recommended Action: **Award contract to low bidder, Fusion Automation, in the amount of $247,890.00 and approve any necessary budget amendment for Project No. 9076 – 2026-27 Electrical Services Contract.**

Committee Recommended Action: N/A

Council Action:

Motion by Berg, second by Sande to approve on consent agenda.
Motion passed unanimoously

BACKGROUND:

To manage the electrical needs of the city efficiently and effectively, every two years the city requests bids for an electrical assistance contract. With the additional contracted personnel in place, the Engineering Department and Electrical Division are prepared to respond and address electrical needs for the city, especially in emergencies and when additional manpower is needed. Funds for the contract are provided through various existing budget accounts depending on the services rendered and through Finance/Insurance Reimbursement for any collectable claim (usually from a vehicle crash).

Staff expected a low number of bids because of the specialized services needed and the response time required for emergency services. Staff feel the low bidder is qualified to do the work. Readvertising would most likely not produce additional bidders.

This contract will begin as soon as reasonably possible and continue through December 31, 2026. Prior to the end of 2026, staff will review costs and determine if a one-year contract extension will best serve the City's needs. If the contractor and City mutually agree upon a contract extension, it will be extended to December 31, 2027. If there is no mutual agreement, staff will re-bid for a new contract for electrical services.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- Bids were received on December 30, 2025.
- A total of 3 bids were received and opened.
- The bids received ranged from $247,890.00 to $543,650.00.
- The lowest bid received was from Fusion Automation in the amount of $247,890.00.
- The Engineer's Estimate for this project is $292,800.
- The lowest bid received was approximately 15% below the Engineer's Estimate.
- City staff feel the low bidder is qualified to do the work of this project.
- Funding for this project will come from various existing budget accounts depending on the services rendered and through Finance/Insurance Reimbursement for any collectable claims (usually from a vehicle crash).

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Abstract of Bids Received (1 page)

Abstract of Bids Received
City Project No. 9076
Project Name - 2026-27 Electrical Services Contract
Bid Opening - 2:00 PM on Tuesday, December 30, 2025

	Contractor	Base Bid
1	Fusion Automation Grand Forks, ND	$247,890.00
2	Strata Corporation Grand Forks, ND	$453,444.00*
3	H&S Electrical Services Grand Forks, ND	$543,650.00
4		
5		
6		
7		
	Engineers Estimate	$292,800.00

*Different from As Read bid because of math error.