

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
FOR A FIBER COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR  
LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY IN LAURENS, IOWA

Notice is hereby given that bids for the construction, including the supply of necessary labor, materials, and equipment, for the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility Fiber Communications System known as 2021 FTTH Project, will be received by Laurens Municipal Electric Utility at its Office, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554 before 2:00 o'clock P.M., C.S.T., December 22, 2020, at which time and place the Bids will be publicly opened and read. This Project is located at various locations throughout the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility service territory, in Pocahontas County, State of Iowa.

At, 11:30 A.M., C.S.T., December 28, 2020 at the Laurens Municipal Power & Communications office, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility Board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed plans, specifications, proposed form of contract and estimated cost of the project. At said hearing any interested person may appear and file objections to the proposed specifications, contract, or estimated cost of said improvements. At said time and place, the bids will be acted upon by the Board or at a later date as will be fixed.

This Project is generally described as:

Distribution System

This section consists of approximately 11.6 miles of buried fiber optic distribution, 1 mile of fiber interconnect cable, and approximately 781 buried service entrances for a total of approximately 36.5 route miles of construction.

All of the above work shall be provided in accordance with the specifications and proposed contract. The work shall commence upon issuance of the notice to proceed after approval of the Contract and bonds. The time for completion of construction of the Project shall be two hundred fifty (250) days from the Contract commencement date.

The plans, specifications, construction sheets and form of contract together with all necessary forms and other documents for Bidders (the "Contract Documents") may be obtained from the **Owner**, or from Engineer, OAK HILL CONSULTING, INC., 3081 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street, Jordan, Minnesota 55352, Telephone (952) 895-8851. The first set is provided at no charge, additional sets may be purchased upon payment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) which payment will not be subject to refund. The Contract Documents may be examined at the offices of the **Owner** or Engineer. The **Owner** may restrict the distribution of the Contract Documents.

The apparent lowest responsive Bidder shall file with the Engineer, upon request, the Bidder's qualifications on forms, copies of which can be obtained from the Engineer. Questions relating to Bidder's qualifications shall be resolved prior to award of the Contract. A Bidder's failure to

submit required qualification information within the times indicated may disqualify the Bidder from receiving an award of the Contract.

Bids will be accepted only from original recipients of the Contract Documents. A Pre-Bid Conference is set for December 9, 2020 10:00 AM CST at the following location:

Laurens Municipal Power & Communications office, 272 N Third Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554. With current COVID issues the meeting will be via conference call. Those interested in bidding the project will be provided the call-in number and agenda. Notes covering the Pre-Bid Conference will be prepared by the Engineer and distributed to all original recipients of the Contract Documents.

Each proposal shall be made out on a blank form furnished by Owner or the Engineer and must be accompanied by a bid security, pursuant to section 26.8, in the form of either a certified check, cashier's check or certified share draft payable to Laurens Municipal Electric Utility, Laurens, Iowa in an amount of at least ten percent (10%) of the amount of the proposal, the certified check or cashier's check drawn on a state-chartered or federally-chartered bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve system, or the certified share draft drawn on a state-chartered or federally-chartered credit union, or by a bid bond on the form provided with the Contract Documents in a like amount executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the State of Iowa. All proposals and bid bond shall be sealed in a single envelope and plainly marked, "SEALED BID FOR LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY 2021 FTTH PROJECT". The envelope shall also show the bidders name and date and time of bid opening. Any alteration of the proposal form may be cause for rejection of the proposal. Such bid security shall be forfeited to Laurens Municipal Electric Utility as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails or refuses to enter into a contract at the prices bid within ten (10) days after the award of contract and post bond satisfactory to Laurens Municipal Electric Utility insuring the faithful fulfillment of the contract.

Payment for said work to be performed will be made from cash on hand. Payment to the contractor will be made on the basis of eighty percent (80%) of the contract value of the material price of stored materials in Owner approved on-site storage and ninety-five percent (95%) of the contract value of the labor and material price upon completion and acceptance by the Engineer and Owner. The remaining five percent (5%) will be paid upon successful completion of the Project and submittal of all final contract documents.

To the extent required by Iowa law, a resident bidder shall be allowed a preference as against a nonresident bidder from a state or foreign country if that state or foreign country gives or requires any preference to bidders from that state or foreign country, including but not limited to any preference to bidders, the imposition of any type of labor force preference or any other form of preferential treatment to bidders or laborers from that state or foreign country. The preference allowed shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state or foreign country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident. In the instance of a resident labor force preference, a nonresident bidder shall apply the same resident labor force preference to a public improvement in this state as would be required in the construction of a public improvement by the state or foreign

country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident. Failure to submit a fully completed Bidder Status Form with the Proposal may result in the Proposal being deemed nonresponsive and rejected.

Laurens Municipal Electric Utility reserves the right to defer acceptance of any proposal for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days after the date proposals are received and no proposal may be withdrawn during this period.

Laurens Municipal Electric Utility reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any or all minor irregularities in the form of the bid, and enter into such contract as it shall deem to be in the best interest of Laurens Municipal Electric Utility.

Any attempt to obtain low bid status by selectively bidding of multiple manufacturers low dollar products such that the cost of spares on inventories are unduly affected may be grounds for total bid rejection. Laurens Municipal Electric Utility is interested in initial and long-term system performance and consideration.

Issued upon order of Laurens Municipal Electric Utility, Laurens, Iowa.

Dated this 22nd day of October 2020.

LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY

By /s/ Chad Cleveland  
General Manager