REPORT TO THE BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN

DATE: November 23, 2026

FROM: Donal Davis, Interim Public Utilities Director

SUBJECT: Review of Bids and Award of Contract for Organic Polymer

INTRODUCTION:
The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain Board of Mayor and Alderman approval of a contract for the purchase of organic polymer for the Shelton Road Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant from CedarChem, LLC.

This will be a twelve (12) month contract with an option to extend for four additional twelve (12) month terms, for a combined of forty-eight (48) additional months.

BACKGROUND:
The wastewater treatment plants remove solids from the system utilizing belt filter presses and screw presses. The process requires an organic polymer to condition the solids that are fed into the presses flocculating the solids so water can be removed from the sludge more efficiently when compacted. The pressed solids are then transported for disposal to the Quad County landfill in Byhalia, MS.

DISCUSSION:
All potential vendors were required to submit samples for testing at each of the wastewater treatment plants. The polymer trial evaluations rated the weight and efficiency of the polymer as well as cost for disposal. To qualify, a polymer's performance had to meet minimum percent cake solids and percent capture at a specified filter feed rate. The approved polymers were rated based on the overall annual cost of operation, which included the cost of the polymer and cost of transportation and disposal of the solids.

Polymer is a chemical where price per pound is not the sole determining factor. Staff utilize a spreadsheet to calculate total monthly cost which includes the cost of the polymer and cost of transportation and disposal. The polymer with the lowest total monthly cost is the polymer that is selected. In the event of a tie, items such as solids infiltrate and cake solids are used for a tie breaker.

There were two (2) companies that submitted bids for the polymer contract, with all being considered responsive bidders. Based on the factors listed above, CedarChem LLC. had the lowest combined cost performance for both the Shelton Road Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant (see attached performance evaluation sheet).

The estimated annual cost for polymer is $71,448, based on the performance CedarChem, LLCs polymer from the plant trials. The amount of polymer used annually is dependent on the quantity of sludge processed throughout the year, filamentous bacteria present, and temperature.

BUDGET IMPACT:
FY 2027

Fund	Dept.	Obj. Code	Description	Approved Line Item Budget	Previous Expenses	Proposed Expense	Budget Impact
413	52213	322	Chemical/Lab/Medical	$182,000.00	$43,284.90	Not to exceed budget	N/A

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 2 Whole Contract Executive Summary.pdf
Attachment 1 - Contract GS-27-01635 Organic Polymer.pdf

PROPOSED MOTION:
To approve a contract with CedarChem, LLC. to supply polymer to the Shelton Road Wastewater Treatment Plant at a unit cost of $1.58/1b. And the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant at a unit cost of $1.54/1b.

Board Action: Motion By_____ Seconded By_____

Vote Total	Hall	Jordan	Robbins	Marshall	Stamps	Fraser
Yes						
No						
Abstain						