



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
State Contracting Standards Board
4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee Meeting
1:00 P.M., Tuesday, November 20, 2018
Fifth Floor Conference Room
18-20 Trinity Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present:

Robert Rinker, Chair
Bruce Buff
Stuart Mahler

David Guay, Ex-Officio, Executive Director

1. Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by Robert Rinker, Subcommittee Chair.

2. Approve the minutes of the October 30, 2018 Meeting

Motion made by Stuart Mahler and seconded by Bruce Buff to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2018 meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee as corrected. All voted in favor.

3. Civic Mind contest of Capital Regional Development Authority Request for Proposals #18-001

Discussion led by Chair Rinker to understand the facts of the contest.

On October 24, 2018, Civic Mind, LLC contested the solicitation and award of the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) in a letter to the State Contracting Standards Board. The contest was related to an RFP issued by CRDA, RFP#18-001. The RFP was for the redevelopment, operations and securing a professional sports team for Dillion Stadium. The matter was referred to the State Contract Standards Board's 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee (Subcommittee).

The subcommittee met on October 30, 2018. The subcommittee sent a list of questions to CRDA. The subcommittee also sent a letter to CRDA and Civic Mind, LLC with a copy to Mayor Luke Bronin of the City of Hartford setting a meeting of November 20, 2018 to discuss and decide the matter.

On November 4, 2018, Civic Mind, LLC sent an addendum to its first contest.

Civic Mind, LLC in its October 24, 2018 letter raised two points. First, that the Hartford Sports Group (HSG) did not submit their proposal by the deadline of October 13, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. and HSG's proposal did not comport to the RFP. Civic Mind, LLC in its November 4, 2018 letter alleges that HSG had communications by and between the City of Hartford and CRDA and because of that alleged communications the RFP was not a competitive process.

CRDA through an exchange of letter between its Executive Director and the Mayor of Hartford undertook an RFP on behalf of the City regarding Dillon Stadium. The deadline for submitting proposals was October 13, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Three proposals were received by CRDA. The proposals were from HSG, Civic Mind, LLC, and Hartford City FC.

On November 1, 2017, the three proposers made presentation to CRDA at an open meeting at the Convention Center beginning at 6:00 p.m. All three proposers made presentations at the meeting.

On December 1, 2017, CRDA made its recommendation to the City by letter with a five page attachment. CRDA recommended HSG to the City. Each proposer was emailed a copy of the letter and the five page attachment.

On October 18, 2018, CRDA Board of Directors approved an Executive Summary of a proposed agreement between CRDA, HSG and the City.

CRDA informed the subcommittee that the City Council had voted to approve HSG. CRDA also informed the subcommittee that the agreement(s) have not been finalized between the parties.

CRDA took the position at the meeting that Civic Mind, LLC was not timely in submitting any of its contests to the State Contracting Standards Board.

The Subcommittee recessed at 2:10 P.M. and reconvened at 2:20 P.M.

The subcommittee decided that Civic Mind, LLC did not timely contest their claim that HSG did not submit their proposal before the deadline established in the RFP. Under C.G.S. 4e-36, Civic

Mind, LLC had fourteen days from when it knew or should have known of the facts given rise to such contest to submit said contest.

Civic Mind, LLC knew on November 1, 2017 and again on December 1, 2017 that HSG had submitted a proposal and that said proposal was under consideration by CRDA and ultimately recommended by CRDA to the City. The subcommittee recommended to CRDA to adopt a best business practice to date/time stamp receipt of bids and proposals.

In that there are no executed agreement(s) between CRDA, HSG and the City, Bruce Buff made a motion to dismiss without prejudice the contests submitted by Civic Mind, LLC on October 24, 2018 and November 4, 2018. The motion was seconded by Stu Mahler. Motion was passed unanimously.

4. Adjournment

Motion made by Bruce Buff and seconded by Stuart Mahler to adjourn at 2:53 P.M. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay