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CIRCULAR LETTER 2022-13

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May 17, 2022



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of Highways Project Implementation / Bureau of Local Roads & Streets
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Room 205 / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

Christy Johnson
COUNTY CLERK
VERMILION CO. IL

May 17, 2022

CIRCULAR LETTER 2022-13

Township Bidding Threshold Raised to \$30,000

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS / MAYORS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS / TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS, CONSULTING ENGINEERS

On May 6th, Governor Pritzker signed HB 4251, creating Public Act 102-728. This Public Act raised the threshold at which townships are required to bid from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The Public Act was effective immediately.

Townships are no longer required to bid purchases that are less than \$30,000. However, soliciting quotes and finding the best value from multiple sources, is still encouraged, when townships are making purchases for less than \$30,000.

Purchases made prior to May 6th, 2022 were still subject to the \$20,000 limit. Purchases made after May 6th are subject to the new \$30,000 limit. IDOT does not have the authority to allow purchases without bidding above \$20,000 prior to May 6th when townships are using state or federal funds.

A copy of the Public Act is attached to this Circular Letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Tapas'.

George A. Tapas, P.E., S.E.
Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment

cc: Arlene Kocher, Federal Highways Administration
Rick Johnson, Illinois Association of County Engineers
Bryan Smith, Township Officials of Illinois
Donald Goad, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois

AN ACT concerning local government.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Township Code is amended by changing Sections 85-30 and 205-105 as follows:

(60 ILCS 1/85-30)

Sec. 85-30. Purchases; bids. Any purchase by a township for services, materials, equipment, or supplies in excess of \$30,000 ~~\$20,000~~ (other than professional services) shall be contracted for in one of the following ways:

(1) By a contract let to the lowest responsible bidder after advertising for bids at least once (i) in a newspaper published within the township, or (ii) if no newspaper is published within the township, then in one published within the county, or (iii) if no newspaper is published within the county, then in a newspaper having general circulation within the township.

(2) By a contract let without advertising for bids in the case of an emergency if authorized by the township board.

This Section does not apply to contracts by a township with the federal government.

(Source: P.A. 94-435, eff. 8-2-05.)

(60 ILCS 1/205-105)

Sec. 205-105. Construction contracts; bids.

(a) All contracts for construction work whose estimated cost will exceed \$30,000 ~~\$20,000~~ shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder after publication of notice for bids. Notice for bids shall be published once in a newspaper published and having general circulation in the township, if there is one. If there is no such newspaper, notice for bids shall be published in a newspaper published and having general circulation in the county. Notice for bids shall be published at least 10 days before the date set for receiving bids. Bids shall be opened and publicly read, and an award shall be made to the lowest responsible bidder within 15 days after the receipt of bids.

(b) This Section shall not apply to engineering, legal, or other professional services, but it shall apply to the purchase of equipment unless the township board, by a resolution adopted by a three-fourths vote, determines that it is for the best interests of the township that advertising for bids for the equipment be dispensed with.

(Source: P.A. 95-300, eff. 8-20-07.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.