

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 484

Approved November 7, 2017

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Authorize Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26 of the Code of Ordinances.

Rethinking Power Management
(Office of Sustainability)

\$25,000.00

IN CITY COUNCIL

NOV 02 2017

READ AND PASSED


ACTING PRES.


CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor
Date: 11/7/17

MATTHEW M. CLARKIN, JR.
INTERNAL AUDITOR
25 DORRANCE STREET, ROOM #307
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 421-7740 EXT. 577
Fax: (401) 351-1056
mclarkin@providenceri.com



City of Providence, Rhode Island Office of the Internal Auditor

June 22, 2017

Ms. Lori Hagen
City Clerk's Office
City of Providence
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Lori:

I am writing to request that the following requested contract awards be submitted to the City Council and the Finance Committee for approval.

- *Office of Sustainability* – Approval of payment to Rethinking Power Management (RPM) of Boston, Massachusetts for services provided for the Coordination of the Energy Efficient Work in the amount of \$25,000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew M. Clarkin, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Matthew M. Clarkin, Jr.
Internal Auditor

Cc: Alan Sepe, Director of Operations
James Lombardi, City Treasurer
Leah Bamberger, Director of Sustainability



Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

June 13, 2017

The Honorable Jorge O. Elorza
Chairman, Board of Contract and Supply
City Hall
Providence RI 02903

RE: APPROVAL TO PAY RETHINKING POWER MANAGEMENT FOR PROJECT
MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY SERVICES AT VARIOUS CITY
LOCATIONS – OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Dear Mayor Elorza:

The Office of Sustainability was working with National Grid to determine the best way for the City to take advantage of energy efficiency incentives. With funding from National Grid, Rethinking Power Management (RPM) was introduced as facilitator for the City's Efficiency Building Fund. It was in the best interest of the City to continue to use RPM as project expeditors for the coordination of the energy efficiency work at five (5) City Locations: the Police Academy, Dexter Street Fire Garage, and Atwells Avenue, Broad Street and Branch Avenue Fire Stations. The Energy Efficiency Work is complete; the City is receiving rebate checks for the Energy Efficiency incentives.

Director of Sustainability Leah Bamberger respectfully requests approval to pay Rethinking Power Management (RPM), 745 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, for the Coordination of the Energy Efficiency Work, in the amount not to exceed Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) Dollars.

Funds are available in account 101-1801 52911.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah Bamberger".

Leah Bamberger
Director of Sustainability

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge O. Elorza".

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Providence City Hall | 25 Dorrance Street, Room 501 | Providence, Rhode Island 02903
401 680 5000 ph | 401 273 2114 fax
www.providenceri.gov



CITY OF PROVIDENCE
Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

August 22, 2017

Hon. Lori Hagen
City Clerk
Providence City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Finance Committee request regarding RPM

Dear Ms. Hagen:

The Finance Committee has requested a letter from the Law Department to explain the course of action undertaken with Rethinking Power Management ("RPM"), a company currently providing project oversight on behalf of the City of Providence for efficiency measures at the Police Academy, Dexter Street Garage, and three fire stations at Atwells and Branch Avenues and Broad Street.

RPM began working with the Department of Public Property and Office of Sustainability during the summer of 2016, through an arrangement with National Grid as one of its pre-qualified energy efficiency vendors. National Grid paid for RPM's consulting services, using energy efficiency funds, to assist the City with an application to the Efficient Building Fund (EBF) – Round I of the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. RPM assisted in the RFP process and helped the City select two preferred vendors to identify qualifying energy efficiency projects. RPM has continued to provide services outside the scope of the National Grid contract in order to see the EBF application process through.

The City's EBF application was premised on the fact that account rebates from National Grid would pay for RPM's continued services as an owner's representative through project implementation. This saved the City almost \$50,000 during implementation.

In short, the City was the beneficiary of a relationship between National Grid and an energy efficiency vendor. Because no actual City funds were to be utilized, no filing was made with the Board of Contract and Supply. It was the City's original understanding that the rebates would be paid directly by National Grid to RPM for these services. Only later did National Grid disclose that the funds would have to go to the City first. Meanwhile, the City developed a scope of work with RPM and the firm began work with the City with the understanding that National Grid would be paying for these services.

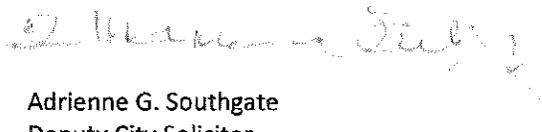
CITY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE
444 Westminster Street, Suite 220, Providence, Rhode Island 02903
401 680 5333 ph | 401 680 5520 fax
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Hon. Lori Hagen
August 22, 2017
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Now that the City has been made aware of the change in payment arrangements, I am recommending that a letter be provided to the Board of Contract and Supply to explain the RPM Scope of Work and the pass-through payment arrangements. I hope that this explanatory letter will give the Finance Committee sufficient comfort that it can recommend approval of the RPM contract to the full Council. RPM has been patiently awaiting compensation, which National Grid has provided subject to the Council's approval.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Adrienne G. Southgate
Deputy City Solicitor

Copy to: Leah Bamberger, Director of Sustainability
Al Buco, Director of City Property
Larry Mancini, Chief Financial Officer