

2055--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 10, 2013

Introduced by Sens. LATIMER, DILAN, SAMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- recommitted to the Committee on Local Government in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to letting of certain contracts

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 103 of the general municipal law,
2 as amended by chapter 2 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 1. Except as otherwise expressly provided by an act of the legislature
5 or by a local law adopted prior to September first, nineteen hundred
6 fifty-three, all contracts for public work involving an expenditure of
7 more than thirty-five thousand dollars and all purchase contracts
8 involving an expenditure of more than twenty thousand dollars, shall be
9 awarded by the appropriate officer, board or agency of a political
10 subdivision or of any district therein including but not limited to a
11 soil conservation district to the lowest responsible bidder furnishing
12 the required security after advertisement for sealed bids in the manner
13 provided by this section, provided, however, that purchase contracts
14 (including contracts for service work, but excluding any purchase
15 contracts necessary for the completion of a public works contract pursu-
16 ant to article eight of the labor law) may be awarded on the basis of
17 best value, as defined in section one hundred sixty-three of the state
18 finance law, to a responsive and responsible bidder or offerer in the
19 manner provided by this section except that in a political subdivision
20 other than a city with a population of one million inhabitants or more
21 or any district, board or agency with jurisdiction exclusively therein

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 the use of best value for awarding a purchase contract or purchase
2 contracts must be authorized by local law or, in the case of a district
3 corporation, school district or board of cooperative educational
4 services, by rule, regulation or resolution adopted at a public meeting.
5 In any case where a responsible bidder's or responsible offerer's gross
6 price is reducible by an allowance for the value of used machinery,
7 equipment, apparatus or tools to be traded in by a political subdivi-
8 sion, the gross price shall be reduced by the amount of such allowance,
9 for the purpose of determining the best value. In cases where two or
10 more responsible bidders furnishing the required security submit identi-
11 cal bids as to price, such officer, board or agency may award the
12 contract to any of such bidders. Such officer, board or agency may, in
13 his or her or its discretion, reject all bids or offers and readvertise
14 for new bids or offers in the manner provided by this section. In deter-
15 mining whether a purchase is an expenditure within the discretionary
16 threshold amounts established by this subdivision, the officer, board or
17 agency of a political subdivision or of any district therein shall
18 consider the reasonably expected aggregate amount of all purchases of
19 the same commodities, services or technology to be made within the
20 twelve-month period commencing on the date of purchase. Purchases of
21 commodities, services or technology shall not be artificially divided
22 for the purpose of satisfying the discretionary buying thresholds estab-
23 lished by this subdivision. A change to or a renewal of a discretionary
24 purchase shall not be permitted if the change or renewal would bring the
25 reasonably expected aggregate amount of all purchases of the same
26 commodities, services or technology from the same provider within the
27 twelve-month period commencing on the date of the first purchase to an
28 amount greater than the discretionary buying threshold amount. For
29 purposes of this section, "sealed bids" and "sealed offers", as that
30 term applies to purchase contracts, (including contracts for service
31 work, but excluding any purchase contracts necessary for the completion
32 of a public works contract pursuant to article eight of the labor law)
33 shall include bids and offers submitted in an electronic format includ-
34 ing submission of the statement of non-collusion required by section one
35 hundred three-d of this article, provided that the governing board of
36 the political subdivision or district, by resolution, has authorized the
37 receipt of bids and offers in such format. Submission in electronic
38 format may, for technology contracts only, be required as the sole meth-
39 od for the submission of bids and offers. Bids and offers submitted in
40 an electronic format shall be transmitted by bidders and offerers to the
41 receiving device designated by the political subdivision or district.
42 Any method used to receive electronic bids and offers shall comply with
43 article three of the state technology law, and any rules and regulations
44 promulgated and guidelines developed thereunder and, at a minimum, must
45 (a) document the time and date of receipt of each bid and offer received
46 electronically; (b) authenticate the identity of the sender; (c) ensure
47 the security of the information transmitted; and (d) ensure the confi-
48 dentiality of the bid or offer until the time and date established for
49 the opening of bids or offers. The timely submission of an electronic
50 bid or offer in compliance with instructions provided for such
51 submission in the advertisement for bids or offers and/or the specifica-
52 tions shall be the responsibility solely of each bidder or offerer or
53 prospective bidder or offerer. No political subdivision or district
54 therein shall incur any liability from delays of or interruptions in the
55 receiving device designated for the submission and receipt of electronic
56 bids and offers. DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING JUNE FIRST, TWO THOUSAND

1 FOURTEEN, AND ENDING MARCH THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN, THE
2 VILLAGE OF PORT CHESTER AND THE CITY OF NEW ROCHELLE, IN WESTCHESTER
3 COUNTY MAY, FOR COMMODITY, SERVICE AND TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS REQUIRE
4 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION AS THE SOLE METHOD FOR THE SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR
5 THE SOLICITATION. SUCH MUNICIPALITIES SHALL, DURING THE STATED TIME
6 PERIOD, UNDERTAKE NO MORE THAN FIFTY SUCH ELECTRONIC BID SOLICITATIONS,
7 NONE OF WHICH SHALL BE REVERSE AUCTIONS, PRIOR TO APRIL FIRST, TWO THOU-
8 SAND EIGHTEEN. IN ADDITION, SUCH MUNICIPALITIES MAY CONDUCT UP TO TWENTY
9 REVERSE AUCTIONS THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS, PRIOR TO APRIL FIRST, TWO
10 THOUSAND EIGHTEEN. PRIOR TO REQUIRING THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF
11 BIDS, THE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF NEW ROCHELLE AND THE
12 VILLAGE OF PORT CHESTER SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION, WHICH SHALL BE DOCU-
13 MENTED IN THE PROCUREMENT RECORD, THAT ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION AFFORDS A
14 FAIR AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR OFFERERS TO SUBMIT RESPONSIVE OFFERS.
15 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THE COMPLETION OF THE FIFTIETH ELECTRONIC BID
16 SOLICITATION, OR BY APRIL FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN, WHICHEVER IS
17 EARLIER, THE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF NEW ROCHELLE AND THE
18 VILLAGE OF PORT CHESTER SHALL PREPARE AND ISSUE REPORTS TO THE LEGISLA-
19 TURE ASSESSING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDA-
20 TIONS REGARDING FUTURE USE OF THIS PROCUREMENT METHOD. IN ADDITION,
21 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THE COMPLETION OF THE TWENTIETH REVERSE AUCTION
22 THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS, OR BY APRIL FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN,
23 WHICHEVER IS EARLIER, THE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF NEW
24 ROCHELLE AND THE VILLAGE OF PORT CHESTER SHALL PREPARE AND ISSUE REPORTS
25 TO THE LEGISLATURE ASSESSING THE USE OF REVERSE AUCTIONS THROUGH ELEC-
26 TRONIC MEANS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FUTURE USE OF THIS
27 PROCUREMENT METHOD. SUCH REPORTS SHALL BE PUBLISHED ON THE OFFICIAL
28 WEBSITES OF THE RESPECTIVE MUNICIPALITIES AND SHALL BE PROVIDED ELEC-
29 TRONICALLY TO THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE ASSEMBLY
30WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF GENERAL
31 SERVICES.

32 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amend-
33 ments to subdivision 1 of section 103 of the general municipal law made
34 by section one of this act shall not affect the expiration and reversion
35 of such subdivision and shall expire therewith.