

### Contractor Selected For Downtown Streetscape Project

A contractor is selected for phase two of the city of Hiawatha's downtown streetscape project.

The Hiawatha City Commission voted Monday evening to award the contract to AHRS Construction of Bern at a total cost of \$821,741, contingent upon concurrence from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

The commission took the action on the recommendation of project engineer Brian Kingsley with BG Consultants.

Kingsley said AHRS submitted the low base bid for the project in the amount of just over \$806,000 from among five bids received on January 18th.

The base bid was nearly \$144,000 under the engineer's estimate.

The commission also opted to accept two alternate bids. One for the contractor to do the excavation work for water service line taps and the other for fiber-reinforced concrete sidewalks.

The commission decided to re-bid the project last August after learning there were issues with the two lowest bids.

KDOT will pay for 70 percent of the construction cost. The city will be responsible for nearly \$317,000 of the total project cost.

The project is scheduled for 70 working days.

The project calls for the installation of new sidewalks, decorative lights and planters along with some utility adjustments on the south side of the 600 block of Utah Street and east side of the 100 block of South 7th Street.

The first phase of the project was completed in 2007 and incorporated similar improvements to Oregon and Seventh Streets.