

**A Texarkana company is being considered for an almost \$5 million project to build a waterline that will deliver Lake Ouachita water to a Hot Springs treatment plant.**

**The Hot Springs Board of Directors will consider a contract Tuesday night for the first leg of the raw waterline that will feed a new treatment plant off Amity Road.**

**The \$4,769,153 contract with Belt Construction of Texarkana would build the first 2.5 miles of the more than 17-mile line, said Todd Piller, the city's major capital projects manager.**

**The first segment will traverse U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land, Weyerhaeuser property and Garland County's Cozy Acres Road right of way. The county agreed last year to let the city use the right of way in return for the city rebuilding and overlaying the road.**

**Hot Springs City Manager Bill Burrough told his city directors, "It really is the initial work for our new water supply."**

**The first 2.5 miles of the line will be a 48-inch diameter welded steel pipe, Piller said. The 30-inch line the city plans to connect to the raw waterline will feed the Ouachita Plant, giving the facility a second raw water source.**

**Piller said the line will narrow to 42 inches in diameter south of the Ouachita Plant connection.**

**Belt's bid was the lowest of the nine the city opened last month, according to information presented to the board. It would be paid from the \$20 million bond issue the city floated in 2018, accounting for the balance of the bond proceeds.**

**The city has \$106 million in the construction fund for the Lake Ouachita supply project.**

**The city secured a 23.5 million-gallon a day allocation from the Corps of Engineers in 2017. The plant it plans to build off Amity Road would be rated at more than 15 million gallons a day.**