

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

00-303

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

JULY 10, 2000

Communication requesting procurement of two self-propelled sludge applicators in the amount of \$310,000 to Ag-Chem Equipment Co., Inc., 5720 Smetana Drive, Minnetonka, MN. Bonnie J. Cameron, Manager, Industrial Products Division, phone - (952)945-2362.

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR
PROCUREMENT OF
TWO SELF-
PROPELLED
SLUDGE
APPLICATORS

FISCAL IMPACT -

Enterprise funds. Funding for this procurement is budgeted in the equipment replacement fund en265, org. eng070151, subobject code 544010, amount \$310,000.

TYPE:

Approval.

RESOLUTION

ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

BACKGROUND -

SUBMITTED BY:

WILLIAM STOWE
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR

The Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) first implemented their land application program in the fall of 1986. This program provides a valuable and beneficial resource to the agricultural community by recycling the residuals of the treatment process most commonly known as "sludge" but referred to as "biosolids" within the wastewater industry. Staff currently applies, at agronomic rates, an average of 45,000 wet tons of biosolids per year, to an average of 1500 acres of cropland within a thirty-mile radius of the treatment facility.

In the fall of 1988 the WRF purchased its first self-propelled applicator. To meet the increasing production of biosolids, the facility increased its fleet of applicators from one to three in 1991 and purchased a fourth applicator in 1992. In 1996 the WRF purchased new spreader boxes for the applicators that enhanced the ability of the operators to apply the biosolids at a more precise agronomic rate.

Since 1996 staff has work diligently with several manufacturers in providing feedback for improvements of their applicators. Pilot projects have been completed and test data shared with the manufacturers. This experience has allowed staff to develop specifications that incorporate the latest technology within the industry.

Now in the year 2000, the facility is facing an aging fleet of applicators with rising maintenance costs. Staff anticipated this and budgeted \$320,000 for replacement of two of the oldest applicators. Staff developed specifications and requested the purchasing agent to obtain competitive bids. Bid no. G2000-270 was let and opened with only one response. The sole respondent met all specifications in the bid and came in under staff's estimate with a bid of \$310,000. Therefore it is staff's recommendation to award the bid to Ag-Chem Equipment Co., Inc. in the amount of \$310,000.00 with trade.