



Agenda Item:

48E

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

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236

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No.:

Roll Call

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Director, Community Development

SUBJECT—

Mosquito Control

SYNOPSIS—

The contract between the City of Des Moines and Clarke Mosquito Control, for mosquito control products and services, has expired. In an effort to utilize economics of scale, the City of Des Moines along with Polk County, and the Cities of West Des Moines and Urbandale recently entered into an agreement to submit a consolidated bid proposal for mosquito control products and aerial application services to industry vendors. Three companies responded with bids for chemicals, two companies with bids for aerial application of chemicals.

FISCAL IMPACT—

We would anticipate making two aerial applications of mosquito pre-hatch control chemicals to approximately 600 acres within the City of Des Moines, 300 acres per treatment. The cost of chemical for these treatments would be approximately \$9,150 per treatment for a total of \$18,300 for both. The cost of application for each treatment would be \$3765, for a total of \$7,530 for both. We would also anticipate using 660 gallons of adult mosquito control chemical during the coming season, at \$45.10 per gallon, for a total cost of \$29,766. These funds are provided for in the Community Development Department, Neighborhood Inspection Division budget, Account Codes 532030 and 521040.

RECOMMENDATION—

1. Acceptance of the bid from Clarke Mosquito Control (John L. Clarke, President, P.O. Box 72197, 159 North Garden Avenue, Roselle, IL, 60172) for pre-hatch chemical @ \$6.10 per pound.
2. Acceptance of the bid from Scott's Helicopter Service (Scott Churchill, P.O. Box 92, Highway 169 North, Le Sueur, MN 56058) for aerial application at a cost of \$12.55 per acre.
3. Acceptance of the bid from Clarke Mosquito Control for adult mosquito control chemical (Anvil) @ \$45.10 per gallon.

BACKGROUND—

Clarke Mosquito Control is the only vendor that chose to respond with a bid for the pre-hatch control product.

Scott's Helicopter Service was the low bidder, of two responders, for aerial application of pre-hatch control @ \$12.55 per acre, underbidding Clarke, our previous application contractor.

Bids were received for several different chemical formulations of adult mosquito control products from a total of three separate vendors. Bid prices ranged from \$17.00 to \$279.95 per gallon of raw material, with hourly application costs ranging from approximately \$43.00 per hour to \$180.00 per hour, when applied at minimum recommended application rates.

Our recommendation is to accept the bid from Clarke Mosquito Control Company for Anvil 2+2. This is an adult mosquito control product with an hourly application cost of approximately \$130.00 per hour. While there are products available from two of the three responders, including Clarke, that would be less expensive to use, application restrictions noted on the labels of the lower priced products (primarily the 100 foot set back requirement from fish bearing areas or, rivers, lakes, and streams) render them unacceptable to use in our current mosquito control program.

All of these products are pesticides, and appropriate measures and precautions must be used in their application regardless of our choice. However, Anvil 2+2 represents the safest apparent option in terms of non-target exposure and lower risk factors to the environment, plus we have utilized this product in the past with successful results.

As mentioned previously, the bid process this year for mosquito control chemicals and services represents a joint endeavor between the cities of Des Moines, Urbandale, West Des Moines, and Polk County. If bids are approved as recommended, the City of Des Moines will realize a cost savings of approximately \$7,500 over two aerial applications of pre-hatch control, and an additional \$2.40 over last years contract price for each pound of pre-hatch material applied from the ground. Since we would anticipate using an additional 400 (+) lbs of pre-hatch material this coming season, an additional savings of approximately \$1000 would be realized. These savings would be due to the combined volume of product and acres submit for bid to industry vendors.