



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

June 9, 2008

Agenda Item No. 56A

Roll Call No. 08-

Communication No. 08-342

Submitted by: William G. Stowe, Assistant City
Manager/Public Works/Engineering

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of agreement with Ion Exchange, Inc. (Howard Bright, President, 1878 Old Mission Drive, Harpers Ferry, IA 52146) for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of floating islands for algae mitigation at Easter Lake Basins Number 3 and Number 5.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of purchase of floating islands for algae prevention as a proprietary purchase in accordance with Section 2-710 (b) of the City Code.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$68,225.00

Funding Source: Storm Water Improvements, City-wide Storm Water Utility Projects, STE057 EN304/PWK990000, page 4

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Two of the basins constructed for water quality protection of Easter Lake have developed an algae problem. After consideration of several options including application of chemical algicide, introducing grass carp, regular installation of barley bales, and ultrasonic algae control, it has been determined that the concept of floating islands are the most appropriate action. The proposed islands are composed of closed cell marine foam and will be planted with a variety of wetland plants. The wetland plants and extended root systems are expected to effectively compete with algae for the nutrients upon which algae thrive.

Ion Exchange, Inc. is the Iowa dealer for Floating Islands International, LLC based in Shepherd, MT that manufactures the closed cell foam product that is considered to be a higher quality product than alternative options. This product is expected to have a longer lifespan and is guaranteed for seven years.

This product is based on a relatively new concept to mimic the effects of the natural process and has been tested in many climates. Floating islands have been found to be effective pollutant reduction devices and used in applications around the world from stormwater basins to wastewater lagoons.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Annual Maintenance agreement with Ion Exchange, Inc. in the amount of \$2,400 per year for four additional years.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.