



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

February 23, 2009

Agenda Item No. 8A  
Roll Call No. 09-  
Communication No. 09-121  
Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.  
City Engineer

## AGENDA HEADING:

Ordering construction of the following: Cownie Soccer Fields Improvements - Phase 2 - Receiving bids, (3-10-09), and Setting date of hearing, (3-23-09). (Construction Estimate - \$477,500).

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend the City Council proceed with construction of the improvement and set dates to receive bids and hold a public hearing, as required by Iowa Code, utilizing the method of financing referenced below. The improvement includes repair of flood damage and upgrading two soccer fields including grading, subdrain installation, drainage improvements, sodding, irrigation, and restoration.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$477,500 City Engineer's Estimate

Funding Source: 2009-2010 CIP, Page Parks-25, Soccer Complex, PKS159, Being: G. O. Bonds with the fund transfers into PKS159 as shown in the Recommended 2009-2010 CIP

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Parks and Recreation Department has placed a high priority on maintenance and improvements at the Cownie Soccer Complex. Last spring, the Engineering Department began designing a subdrainage system that would allow the playing fields to recover more quickly from wet conditions, minimizing delays during tournaments. Cancellations of tournaments due to wet fields and turf reestablishment have been a growing concern with Parks staff. For the first time since the complex was opened in 1998, this concern became a reality when a spring 2008 tournament was canceled. Now that the soccer complex is over 10 years old, other issues also need to be evaluated including the hydraulic irrigation system, cross-slope of fields, and settling of playing surface. With the extensive damage to the turf from the 2008 floods, staff recommended upgrading the soccer fields to today's standards including upgrading the irrigation controls with a low-voltage system, grading the playing fields to lessen the cross-slope, and installation of a new subdrainage system prior to the restoration of the sod. On September 8, 2008, under Roll Call 08-1618, the City Council awarded a contract for these upgrades on fields 1-5. The Parks Department also reseeded fields 9-12 in the fall 2008 for use next spring during tournaments as those fields sustained the least amount of flood damage to the turf. Spring tournaments can typically be hosted on eight fields.

Fields 6 and 7 are included in this proposed contract. Work will include grading, subdrain installation, drainage improvements, sodding, irrigation, and restoration, and will be similar to the upgrade that was

done last fall on fields 1-5. It is the Parks Department's recommendation to continue this upgrade and restoration next summer on the remaining five fields in the complex, and a similar subdrain system will be installed on fields 8-12.

In 2009, the Iowa Soccer Association in conjunction with the City of Des Moines, Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau and West Des Moines Soccer Club will bid to host the 2011 U.S. Youth Soccer Regional Championships. This event, which has been hosted previously by Des Moines in 2003 and 2007, draws over 212 teams and 15,000 players, and fans from 14 states. It provides an estimated \$7 million economic impact to the Greater Des Moines economy.

The Engineering Department has prepared plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Cownie Soccer Fields Improvements - Phase 2, 11-2009-003. The improvement includes earthwork, sodding, subdrain installation, drainage improvements and restoration; all in accordance with the contract documents, including Plan File Nos. 495-133/138 at the Cownie Soccer Complex, 2200 E. Hartford Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

The estimated construction cost is \$477,500. The proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents are available for public inspection in the City Engineer's Office.

#### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: September 8, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1617

Action: On Cownie Soccer Fields Improvements – Phase 1: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, Engineer's Estimate and designating lowest responsible

bidder as Smith Seeding, Inc., (John E. Smith, President), \$684,930. (Council Communication No. 08-555) Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Coleman.

Date: September 8, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1618

Action: Approving contract and bond and permission to sublet. Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Coleman.

#### **BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

#### **ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Anticipated actions include public hearing, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, and approve contract and bond; also partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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