

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: September 27, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 38B Roll Call No. <u>10-1569</u> Communication No. <u>10-589</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Director of Park and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving bid to award tree planting to TNT Landscaping, John Church, Owner, 131 S.W. Ordnance Road, Ankeny, IA 50023, as low bidder for \$77,118.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval to award contract for tree plantings.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$77,182

Funding Source: Fiscal Years 2010-11/2015-16 Capital Improvements Program, Forestry Improvements, PKS146 CP040 PKS990000, G.O. Bonds, Park Improvements – Page 9.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The urban forest in the City of Des Moines is a significant public asset providing shade and character throughout our City. Currently the urban forest within the City consists mostly of aging mature native tree species. As the city department responsible for the care and stewardship of a significant portion of the City’s urban forest, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department is undertaking a long-term reforestation effort to ensure the future of the urban forest.

In 2005, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department contracted with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to complete a forestry study for the six largest City parks. Those parks were Ewing, MacRae, Greenwood, Grandview, Pioneer, and Union. This study conducted a tree assessment of each park and completed a reforestation plan recommending tree locations and species.

- In 2006, the reforestation plan was put into action by the planting of 330 trees in Union Park, 387 trees in Grandview Park, 132 trees in Greenwood Park, and 158 in Pioneer Park.
- In 2007, the reforestation effort continued with the fall planting of 205 trees in MacRae Park and 155 trees in Ewing Park, which completed the six parks outlined in the study.
- In 2008, an effort was made to expand the reforestation effort into all of the parks with a fall planting of 330 trees in a total of 24 Parks, 3 Cemeteries, and Chesterfield Community Center.
- In 2009, the reforestation effort expanded even further with a fall planting of 660 trees in a total of 20 Parks, 4 Cemeteries, 4 Athletic Facilities, and along 2 Recreational Trails.

Throughout the restoration process every effort has been made to plant trees that are native to Iowa and all plant material is specified that it must have been grown in a climate zone similar to Des Moines. Since the discovery of the Emerald Ash Borer in 2002, the Park and Recreation Department has made every effort to stay informed on its spread and to begin to develop a readiness plan to deal with it in the event that it reaches here. As a first step, no ash trees have been specified or planted in the park system since 2002.

This year the tree species specified include: Concolor Fir, Amur Maple, Red Sunset Maple, Sugar Maple, Autumn Blaze Maple, River Birch, Prairie Pride Hackberry, Eastern Redbud, American Yellowwood, Pagoda Dogwood, Skyline Honeylocust, Kentucky Coffeetree, Prairifire Crabapple, White Pine, Bloodgood London Planetree, Swamp White Oak, Red Oak, Japanese Tree Lilac, and Princeton Elm.

The new trees will be planted in a total of 15 Parks including Ashfield, Ashby, Beaverdale, Brook Run, Chamberlain, Chesterfield, Easttown, Ewing, Fairmont, Frisbie, Greenwood, Pete Crivaro, Prospect, Westchester, and Witmer. They will also be planted in six Cemeteries including Elm Grove, Glendale, Laurel Hill, Oak Grove, Sims, and Woodland. In addition, trees will also be planted at the Greater Des Moines Softball Complex, Teachout Aquatic Center, Chesterfield Community Center, and along the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway.

A bid proposal for the fall planting was sent to thirteen landscape contractors. Of the thirteen bids mailed, the City received a total of six bids. Based upon number of trees, species of trees, and logistics involved in installation at each park, the Park and Recreation Department recommends awarding the bid based on the lowest, completed bid tabulation.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 26, 2009

Roll Call Number: 09-1946

Action: [TNT](#) Landscaping (John Church, Owner) for plant materials for installation at various parks to be used by the Parks and Recreation Department, \$90,442. (Thirteen bids mailed, seven received). ([Council Communication No. 09-764](#)) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: October 13, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1769

Action: [TNT](#) Landscaping for plant materials for installation at various park locations to be used by the Park and Recreation Department, \$47,520. (Eleven bid mailed, two received). Moved by Coleman to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: October 8, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1960

Action: [Bid](#) from TNT Landscaping for plant materials to be used by the Parks & Recreation Department for installation at various City park locations, \$46,780. (Thirteen bids mailed, two received). ([Council Communication No. 07-597](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: April 10, 2006

Roll Call Number: 06-678

Action: Iowa Outdoor Products for items 1 and 5 on bid tabulation form, \$46,800.71; TNT Landscaping for items 2 and 4 on bid tabulation form, \$63,300; Perficut Lawn & Landscape for item 3 on bid tabulation form, \$13,102.50; to be used at various City Park locations. (Twelve bids mailed, six received). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: September 12, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-2225

Action: Professional Services Agreement with Prairie Wetlands, (Tre Wilson, Proprietor, DSM) for services associated with natural forest regeneration, \$7,920. ([Council Communication No. 05-492](#)) Moved by Hensley to approve. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: April 26, 2005

Roll Call Number:

Action: Park and Recreation Board voted to receive and file a reforestation report on six City parks.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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