


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-226	Meeting:	June 9, 2025
	Agenda Item:	59	Roll Call:	<input type="text"/>
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as TK Concrete, Inc. (Tony J. Ver Meer, President), \$612,255.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This public improvement project includes pavement surface scarification and Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) paving to extend the useful service life of roads in the Masonic Cemetery. The project also includes installing storm sewer, storm intake, and new Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) curbs along the Masonic Cemetery entrance drive.

FISCAL IMPACT:

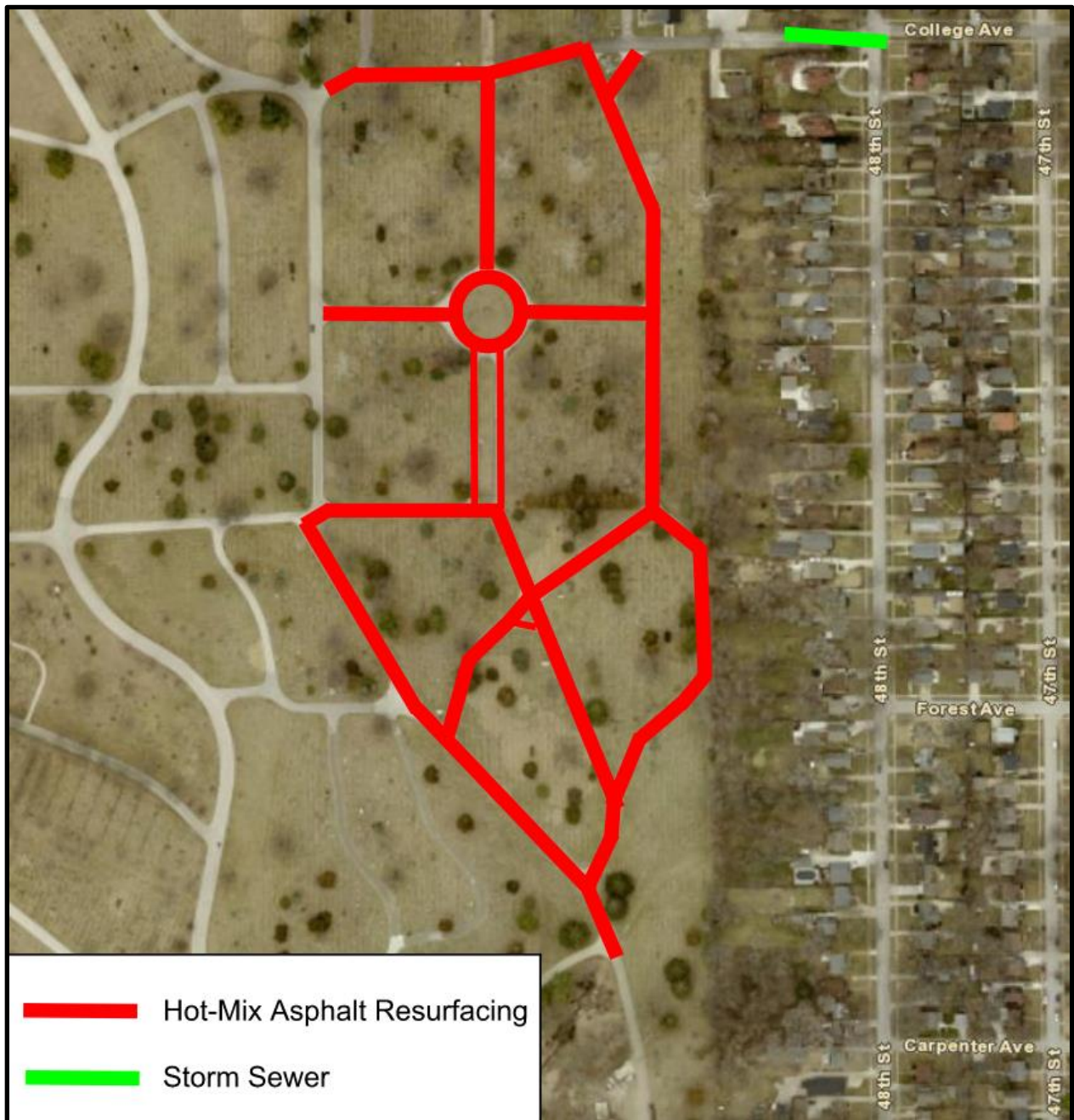
Amount: \$612,255 Construction Contract (\$747,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 84, Park Infrastructure, PK175, Being: G.O. Bonds and cemetery land sale proceeds transferred from PK138 (Cemetery Infrastructure and Improvements)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- On April 21, 2025, under Roll Call No. 25-0557, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, it must hold a public hearing and approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements, Activity ID 11-2024-011. The improvement includes removal of existing HMA pavement and surfacing materials by milling/scarifying to an average depth of three (3) inches, prepare subgrade/subbase, reconstruct pavements with three (3) inches of HMA pavement in one (1) lift, storm sewer, storm intake, and beam curb, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 674-071/082, located at the Masonic Cemetery west of the intersection of College Avenue and 48th Street.

- Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:
 - TK Concrete, Inc., Pella, IA - Low Bid
 - OMG Midwest, Inc. dba Des Moines Asphalt & Paving, Ankeny, IA
 - InRoads, LLC, Des Moines, IA
 - Grimes Asphalt and Paving Corporation, Des Moines, IA
- The bids were received and opened at a public meeting presided over by the City Engineer in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, IA at 11:00 a.m. on May 6, 2025.
- The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by TK Concrete, Inc. (Tony J. Ver Meer, President; 1608 Fifield Road, Pella, IA 50219) in the amount of \$612,255, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.
- The Masonic Cemetery was founded in 1920 and has over 12,500 interments and covers over 32 acres.
- In 2023, the Masonic Cemetery Association requested transfer of ownership, management, and assets to the City through a voluntary transfer, a process recommended by the Iowa Insurance Division which oversees Perpetual Care Cemeteries through the Iowa Cemetery Act.
- The cemetery will remain open during construction. Contract documents specify the contractor to pause work during burial events to help reduce noise and provide consideration for those events.
- This project is anticipated to be completed by the fall of 2025.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 21, 2025

Roll Call Number: [25-0557](#)

Action: [Ordering](#) construction of Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements: Receiving of bids, (5-6-25) and Setting date of hearing, (6-9-25), Engineer's estimate, \$747,000. ([Council Communications No. 25-152](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: July 17, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0982](#)

Action: [Accepting](#) transfer of ownership and control of Des Moines Masonic Cemetery from Cemetery Board of Directors and dedication of the property located at 1550 48th Street as Cemetery. [\(Council Communication No. 23-335\)](#) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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