

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2013-16 ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

This contract will include nearly all of the requirements for tree trimming services for Electric Services during the next three fiscal years. The periods from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, and from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, are renewal options subject to City Council approval of funding. Prices for equipment rates and miscellaneous charges are firm throughout the first two years of the contract period, and are to be adjusted for FY2015-16 based on a percentage of increase included in the original bid. Labor rates are to be adjusted for FY2014-15 and FY2015-16 based on a percentage of increase included in the original bid.

Bid notices were sent to thirteen potential bidders, as well as to one plan room. Prequalification of bidders was required for this contract to ensure that each one had sufficient experience and resources to perform at the level required. Four firms provided prequalification documents detailing their employee safety and training programs and company resources. All four of those firms were determined to be prequalified to bid.

On April 11, 2013, three bids were received and evaluated staff. Staff concluded that the low bid from Asplundh Tree Expert Co., Fairfax, IA, is acceptable. The bid results are shown on Attachment A. Attachment B shows the cost evaluation, which is based on a crew of four people and required equipment for 48 weeks per year, including annual usage on material and supplies. A forty-eight week time period has traditionally been used in the evaluation, since it provides for a full year of services but allows for inclement weather, crew absences, etc., when no work would be performed.

The approved operating budget for FY2013/14 includes \$171,000 for this program. Services provided under this contract are monitored by Electric Services staff to ensure that expenditures are performed properly and are in accordance with the approved funding level.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) Award the contract for the FY2013/14 Electric Distribution Line Clearance Program to Asplundh Tree Expert Co., Fairfax, IA, for hourly rates and unit prices bid, in an amount not to exceed \$171,000. Renewal options for FY2014-15 and FY2015-16 may be exercised later at the Council's discretion.


- 2) Reject all bids and attempt to obtain the required services on an as-needed basis.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:


An on-going tree trimming program helps mitigate the number of customer interruptions resulting from extreme weather events. Alternative No. 1 establishes a fixed price contract for performance of the required tree trimming services at the best price, obtained via the competitive sealed bid process. It has proven to be very cost-effective to have a company under contract to provide these services.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as stated above.

**CITY OF AMES, IOWA
LINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM
FY 2013-2014**

	ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT COMPANY, FAIRFAX, IOWA		WRIGHT TREE SERVICE, DES MOINES, IOWA		TREES, INC., HOUSTON, TEXAS	
	HOURLY RATE		HOURLY RATE		HOURLY RATE	
LABOR DESCRIPTION	STRAIGHT TIME	TIME & ONE- HALF	STRAIGHT TIME	TIME & ONE- HALF	STRAIGHT TIME	TIME & ONE- HALF
Working Foreman	\$30.65	\$41.38	\$32.28	\$43.20	\$36.10	\$51.98
Trimmer A	\$27.56	\$37.21	\$29.38	\$39.18	\$31.58	\$45.48
Trimmer B	\$26.51	\$35.77	\$27.17	\$36.13	\$28.72	\$41.36
Trimmer C	\$24.45	\$33.01	\$25.80	\$34.24	\$27.33	\$39.36
Trimmer D	\$23.05	\$31.12	\$24.45	\$32.37	\$25.91	\$37.31
Ground Person	\$21.64	\$29.21	\$20.44	\$26.83	\$24.48	\$35.25
Line Permitter	\$27.56	\$37.21	\$29.38	\$39.18	\$34.12	\$49.13
EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION	RATE PER CREW HOUR		RATE PER CREW HOUR		RATE PER CREW HOUR	
Hydraulic aerial device	\$13.97		\$13.97		\$16.41	
Manual aerial device	\$8.15		\$13.97		\$16.41	
Chip truck	\$8.15		\$9.02		\$9.62	
Brush Tractor	\$61.62		\$32.75		\$27.28	
Truck&Trailer for Brush trac.	\$14.72		\$11.35		\$17.66	
Hydro Axe	\$69.55		\$48.10		\$63.48	
Truck&Trailer for Hydro Axe.	\$17.55		\$11.35		\$17.66	
Pick-up Truck	\$7.76		\$8.05		\$12.07	
Power saw	\$0.46		\$0.35		\$0.60	
Brush Chipper	\$4.31		\$4.25		\$5.15	
Hand pruning equip.	No Charge		No Charge		No Charge	
Ropes and body belts	No Charge		No Charge		No Charge	
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	BID PRICE		BID PRICE		BID PRICE	
Weedone CB	N/A		N/A		N/A	
Banvel CST per gal	N/A		N/A		N/A	
Garlon 4 per gal	\$30.43		\$30.73		\$34.50	
Tree Paint: Maintain A per case of 12 13 Oz.cans	\$81.07		\$88.80		\$85.26	
Other supplies Cost plus %	10%		10%		15%	
PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE, OPTIONAL RENEWAL PERIODS						
Labor FY 2014-2015	2%		2%		3%	
Labor FY 2015-2016	2%		2%		3%	
Equipment FY 2015-2016	2%		2%		3%	

Line Clearance Low Bidder

	ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT COMPANY					
	HOURLY RATE		RENEWAL PERIOD RATES			
LABOR DESCRIPTION	STRAIGHT TIME	TIME & ONE-HALF	FY 14-15		FY 15-16	
Working Foreman	\$30.65	\$41.38	\$31.26	\$42.21	\$31.89	\$43.05
Trimmer A	\$27.56	\$37.21	\$28.11	\$37.95	\$28.67	\$38.71
Trimmer B	\$26.51	\$35.77	\$27.04	\$36.49	\$27.58	\$37.22
Trimmer C	\$24.45	\$33.01	\$24.94	\$33.67	\$25.44	\$34.34
Trimmer D	\$23.05	\$31.12	\$23.51	\$31.74	\$23.98	\$32.38
Ground Person	\$21.64	\$29.21	\$22.07	\$29.79	\$22.51	\$30.39
Line Permitter	\$27.56	\$37.21	\$28.11	\$37.95	\$28.67	\$38.71
EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION	RATE PER CREW HOUR					
Hydraulic aerial device	\$13.97				\$14.25	
Manual aerial device	\$8.15				\$8.31	
Chip truck	\$8.15				\$8.31	
Brush Tractor	\$61.62				\$62.85	
Truck&Trailer for Brush trac.	\$14.72				\$15.01	
Hydro Axe	\$69.55				\$70.94	
Truck&Trailer for Hydro Axe.	\$17.55				\$17.90	
Pick-up Truck	\$7.76				\$7.92	
Power saw	\$0.46				\$0.47	
Brush Chipper	\$4.31				\$4.40	
Hand pruning equip.	No Charge				No Charge	
Ropes and body belts	No Charge				No Charge	
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	BID PRICE					
Weedone CB						
Banvel CST per gal						
Garlon 4 per gal	\$30.43					
Tree Paint: Maintain A per case of 12 13 Oz.cans	\$81.07					
Other supplies Cost plus %	10%					

PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE, OPTIONAL	
Labor FY 2014-2015	2%
Labor FY 2015-2016	2%
Equipment FY 2015-2016	2%

ATTACHMENT B

**CITY OF AMES, IOWA
EVALUATED TOTAL COST
LINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM FY2013-FY2016**

DESCRIPTION	ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT CO	WRIGHT TREE SERVICE, INC	TREES, INC
FY 2013-2014:			
Estimated Total Labor Costs	\$206,227.20	\$214,041.60	\$242,457.60
Estimated Total Equipment Costs	<u>\$50,880.00</u>	<u>\$51,110.40</u>	<u>\$65,721.60</u>
Subtotal:	\$257,107.20	\$265,152.00	\$308,179.20
Estimated Total Materials & Supplies	<u>\$836.83</u>	<u>\$845.08</u>	<u>\$948.75</u>
Estimated Total Costs			
FY 2013-2014	\$257,944.03	\$265,997.08	\$309,127.95
FY 2014-2015:			
Estimated Total Labor Costs	\$210,351.74	\$218,322.43	\$249,731.33
Estimated Total Equipment Costs	<u>\$50,880.00</u>	<u>\$51,110.40</u>	<u>\$65,721.60</u>
Subtotal:	\$261,231.74	\$269,432.83	\$315,452.93
Estimated Total Materials & Supplies	<u>\$836.83</u>	<u>\$845.08</u>	<u>\$948.75</u>
Estimated Total Costs			
FY 2014-2015	\$262,068.57	\$270,277.91	\$316,401.68
FY 2015-2016:			
Estimated Total Labor Costs	\$214,558.78	\$222,688.88	\$257,223.27
Estimated Total Equipment Costs	\$51,897.60	\$52,132.61	\$67,693.25
Subtotal:	\$266,456.38	\$274,821.49	\$324,916.52
Estimated Total Materials & Supplies	<u>\$836.83</u>	<u>\$845.08</u>	<u>\$948.75</u>
Estimated Total Costs			
FY 2015-2016	\$267,293.20	\$275,666.56	\$325,865.27
SUMMARY			
Overall Estimated Labor Costs	\$631,137.72	\$655,052.91	\$749,412.20
Overall Estimated Equipment Costs	\$153,657.60	\$154,353.41	\$199,136.45
Overall Estimated Materials & Supplies	\$2,510.48	\$2,535.23	\$2,846.25
OVERALL EVALUATED COST, THREE YEARS	\$787,305.80	\$811,941.55	\$951,394.89