

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: WINTER & SUMMER TREE TRIMMING – PUBLIC WORKS

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department requires various tree trimming and stump grinding to be performed during the winter and summer contract periods. The 2014/15 budget includes \$82,660 for this work. The estimated amount needed for the winter tree trimming contract is \$40,000, while the summer tree trimming contract is estimated at \$35,000. That would put the total contract at \$75,000, leaving \$7,660 for other miscellaneous work.

The following original bids for this tree trimming work were received on September 26, 2013 for fiscal year 2013/14:

| <u>Bidder</u> | 2013/14 WINTER & SUMMER TREE TRIMMING | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | <u>Bid Amount – Winter</u> | <u>Bid Amount - Summer</u> |
| LawnPro L.L.C., Colo IA | \$ 37.50/Crew Hour | \$ 39.50/Crew Hour |
| Dan's Custom Landscapes, Ames IA | \$110.00/Crew Hour | \$150.00/Crew Hour |
| Greener Lawns Tree Service, Hannibal MO | \$165.15/Crew Hour | \$165.15/Crew Hour |

Based on the above bids, LawnPro L.L.C was awarded the Winter & Summer Tree Trimming contract for fiscal year 2013/14. That contract included two renewal options through summer 2016. LawnPro had indicated a \$.50/crew hour price increase for winter and a \$.50/crew hour increase for summer for each renewal period. This is the first of the two renewal options that were included in the original contract.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract for the 2014/15 Winter & Summer Tree Trimming to LawnPro L.L.C., Colo, IA, at \$38.00/crew hour for winter trimming and \$40.00/crew hour for summer trimming, with a total contract expenditure not to exceed \$75,000.
2. Do not renew the existing contract with LawnPro L.L.C., and attempt to purchase tree trimming on an as-need basis for fiscal year 2014/15.
3. Do not renew the existing contract with LawnPro L.L.C. and rebid this contract for fiscal year 2014/15 tree trimming.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is important to trim branches and remove trees that otherwise might make City streets and rights of way unsafe. The most economical way to secure these services is by means of seasonal contracts.

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