

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **RENEWAL OF CONTRACT FOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINE
CLEARANCE PROGRAM**

BACKGROUND:

This contract includes nearly all of the requirements for tree trimming services for Electric Services as part of the Line Clearance Program during the 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 fiscal years. It does not cover large storm-related emergency situations.

Electric Services has divided the community into 11 areas for tree trimming. Over a five-year time period, the tree trimming crew will trim in all 11 areas. Trimming is done to minimize electric system outages caused by trees and tree branches.

On June 11, 2013, City Council awarded a contract to Asplundh Tree Expert Co., of Fairfax, Iowa, for these tree trimming services. This contract contained two renewal options. **The period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, is the second and final renewal option subject to Council approval of funding for the Line Clearance Program.** Hourly rates for FY 2015/16 are shown on the attached sheet. The labor and equipment rates shown represent a 2% increase from FY 2014/15 in accordance with the contract terms initially established.

The approved operating budget for FY2015/16 includes \$297,448 for this program.

Services provided under this contract are monitored by Electric Services staff to ensure tree trimming is performed properly and expenditures are in accordance with the approved funding level. Payments will be based on hourly rates, unit prices bid, and actual work performed. Total cost for FY 2015/16 shall be for the not-to-exceed amount of \$297,448.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the contract renewal with Asplundh Tree Expert Co., Fairfax, IA, for the Electric Distribution Line Clearance Program for the one-year period from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. Actual payments will be calculated on unit prices bid and actual work performed in an amount not-to-exceed \$297,448 for FY 2015/16.
2. Do not renew the agreement and instruct staff to seek new competitive bids.

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.



**ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT COMPANY
FAIRFAX, IOWA
FY 2015 / 2016 RATES**

HOURLY RATES

LABOR DESCRIPTION	STRAIGHT TIME	TIME & ONE-HALF
Working Foreman	\$31.89	\$43.05
Trimmer A	\$28.67	\$38.71
Trimmer B	\$27.58	\$37.22
Trimmer C	\$25.44	\$34.34
Trimmer D	\$23.98	\$32.38
Ground Person	\$22.51	\$30.39
Line Permitter	\$28.67	\$38.71

EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION	RATE PER CREW HOUR
Hydraulic aerial device	\$14.25
Manual aerial device	\$8.31
Chip truck	\$8.31
Brush Tractor	\$62.85
Truck&Trailer for Brush trac.	\$15.01
Hydro Axe	\$70.94
Truck&Trailer for Hydro Axe.	\$17.90
Pick-up Truck	\$7.92
Power saw	\$0.47
Brush Chipper	\$4.40
Hand pruning equip.	No Charge
Ropes and body belts	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%