

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009**

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 13, 2006, City Council awarded a contract to Asplundh Tree Expert Company of Fairfax, Iowa, for tree trimming services for the Electric Services Distribution Division. This contract contained two additional annual renewal options. The period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, is the final renewal option, subject to Council approval of funding for the Line Clearance Program.

The approved 2008-2009 operating budget includes \$259,300 for this program. The program is monitored by the Electric Services Department to insure the established level of service is maintained and expenditures are in accordance with the budget guidelines.

Hourly rates for FY 2008-2009 are shown on the attached sheet. Labor rates represent a 3% increase from FY 2007-2008 in accordance with the contract terms. Hourly rates for equipment and material costs also represent a 3% increase from FY 2007-2008.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1) Approve the final renewal option of the Line Clearance contract with Asplundh Tree Expert Company, Fairfax, Iowa, for hourly rates and unit prices bid, with the total cost not to exceed the amount approved for this program, of \$259,300.
- 2) Reject the renewal option and solicit new bids for the FY 2008-2009 Line Clearance Program.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Alternative No. 1 establishes a firm fixed-price contract for performance of the required tree trimming services at the best price, obtained via the competitive sealed bid process. In addition, the pre-qualified contractor has a solid record of safety and professionalism while working for the City on past contracts. As the recent storms have shown, an on-going tree trimming program can help to mitigate the number of customer interruptions resulting from extreme weather events.

It is the recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, approving the renewal option of the Line Clearance contract with Asplundh Tree Expert Company, Fairfax, Iowa, for hourly rates and unit prices bid, with the total cost not to exceed the amount of \$259,300 approved for this program.

**CITY OF AMES, IOWA  
LINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM  
FY 2008-2009**

	<b>ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT COMPANY FAIRFAX, IOWA</b>	
	<b>HOURLY RATE</b>	
<b>LABOR DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>STRAIGHT TIME</b>	<b>TIME &amp; ONE-HALF</b>
Working Foreman	\$29.01	\$40.61
Trimmer A	\$26.09	\$36.52
Trimmer B	\$25.29	\$35.41
Trimmer C	\$23.16	\$32.42
Trimmer D	\$21.86	\$30.60
Ground Person	\$19.35	\$29.20
Line Permitter	\$26.09	\$36.52
<b>EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>RATE PER CREW HOUR</b>	
Hydraulic aerial device	\$11.33	
Manual aerial device	\$11.33	
Chip truck	\$5.36	
Brush Tractor	\$30.90	
Truck&Trailer for Brush trac.	\$8.14	
Hydro Axe	\$46.35	
Truck&Trailer for Hydro Axe.	\$8.14	
Pick-up Truck	\$8.03	
Power saw	\$0.53	
Brush Chipper	\$4.07	
Hand pruning equip.	N/A	
Ropes and body belts	N/A	
<b>MATERIALS &amp; SUPPLIES</b>	<b>BID PRICE</b>	
Banvel CST per gal	\$34.51	
Garlon 4 per gal	\$38.63	
Tree Paint: Maintain A per case of 12 13 Oz.cans	\$43.20	
Other supplies Cost plus %	10.0%	
<b>PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE, OPTIONAL RENEWAL PERIODS</b>		
Labor FY 2007-2008	2.00%	
Labor FY 2008-2009	3.00%	
Equipment FY 2008-2009	3.00%	