

December 15, 2005

To: John Szerlag, City Manager

From: Brian P. Murphy, Assistant City Manager /Services
Jeanette Bennett, Purchasing Director
Carol K. Anderson, Director of Parks and Recreation

Subject: **Agenda Item** – Informal Quotation Process –
Award of Troy Farm Barn Repair

RECOMMENDATION

City Management is requesting a waiver of the formal bid process and City Council approval to repair the small barn located at the Troy Farm for an estimated total cost of \$24,600.00, plus 10% contingency to the contractor submitting the lowest informal quote, David L. Ingraham of St. Johns, MI. The work will include repairs to the walls, sills, supports, and a new roof system. It is anticipated that the project will take approximately four weeks to complete beginning in the spring (April or May, pending suitable weather).

BACKGROUND

In 2004, specifications to repair the barn were developed by a barn repair specialist. Informal quotes were then solicited for this specialized work in the spring of 2005. At the time, no vendors submitted a quote. Quotes were then solicited in August 2005, as the specifications were sent to seven vendors who could perform the work. Two vendors visited the site and submitted a quote (See Appendix 1). Staff recommends awarding the repair to the low vendor submitting a quote for the project. A phone call from the vendor on December 8, 2005 verified that the original quote will be honored. Although the original quotes were taken some time ago, the quotes were higher than anticipated and additional research was completed to ensure the value of this work.

REASONS TO REPAIR THE BARN

- The barn is in very poor structural condition and will collapse if repairs are not made in the immediate future. It is a major safety issue for visitors at the site.
- The barn dates back to the earliest history of Troy Township settlement and remains an excellent example of barn construction from that era.
- The barn belonged to the son of one of the earliest settlers in Troy, Elizur Goodrich (the original land owner).
- Previous farm plans have identified it as a potential interpretive site for the land and early agriculture. Artifacts are probably to be found in the dirt floor of the barn.
- The barn could be used to house some interpretive panels to interpret the wildflower meadow or a prairie restoration project on site.
- It contributes to the rural atmosphere and aesthetics of the Troy Farm. This rural feel in a City Park would be a rare asset and having recreation facility with this feature is a real asset.

BUDGET

Funds are available in the Park Development Account #401770.7974.080.

APPENDIX I

Price Summary Troy Farm Barn Repair

<u>Company</u>	<u>Prices</u>
David L. Ingraham 1991 County Line Road St. Johns, MI 48879	\$16,450 \$24,600 (with new roof system as recommended)
Harlan L. Whipple 1211 West Dansville Road Mason, MI 48854	\$16,506 (with no new roof recommended)