

Mary F Redden

From: Mary F Redden
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 4:07 PM
To: John Szerlag; John M Lamerato; Brian P Murphy; Lori G Bluhm; 000schilling@ameritech.net; cristinabroomfield@yahoo.com; David Eisenbacher; Louise Schilling; Mary Kerwin; mfhowryl@umich.edu; rbeltram@wideopenwest.com; wade.fleming@proforma.com
Subject: Agenda Questions from Council Members

Attached are questions posed by council members (regarding tonight's agenda) and staff's responses.

E-05 – Rescind Bid Award/Re-Award Contract – Rough Mow Various Municipal Sites

Why was it not economically feasible for Great Lakes to continue with the mowing?

Parks and Recreation Director Carol Anderson indicates that Great Lakes was the bidder that defaulted in 2007 because, based on what they bid, they weren't making any money providing mowing services. The current contractor who is defaulting on the contract, Steele's Services, has indicated the very same situation. The next acceptable low bidder, B & B Landscaping, will provide the rough mowing services for 2009 at an increased cost of approximately \$7,000.

E-06 – Approval of DDA Proposed Fiscal Year 2009/10 DDA Budget

Is there any money planned in the DDA budget (page 106 in agenda) for road repairs of cracks and seams or slab replacement on Big Beaver? It appears this money could be included in any of three different line items:

Street Island Maint. 231,270
Corridor Study Improvements 5,000,000
Economic Development-MEGA Match 100,000

Brian Murphy responds that the total Tri-Party program for 2009 is \$595,176 with the city's 1/3 share being \$198,392. Tri-Party funds can only be used on County Roads. The Tri-Party agreement identified Big Beaver, Dequindre, John R, Crooks, Long Lake and Livernois as project areas for concrete slab replacements. Specific locations on these roads will be identified prior to any work starting as the funds available will not be sufficient to complete all repairs that are needed. Work on Big Beaver, within the boundaries of the DDA, can be paid for by the DDA which would allow us to use these funds to complete additional work on County roads outside of the DDA. City staff's recommendation is to use Tri-Party funds outside of the DDA and use DDA funds only for slab work within the DDA boundaries, which would essentially increase the amount of work that could be completed.

F-04 (c) – Standard Purchasing Resolution 3: Exercise Renewal Option – Photographic Services

Can the work be done in-house? What is the cost per service? What do we do with the 6 albums per year?

Community Affairs Director Cindy Stewart indicates that we do not have the equipment nor the expertise to do the work in-house. A professional photographer provides us with quality not just quantity. She can cover the evening, weekend & day events that we would not have time to cover.

The cost is \$225 per half-day's work and \$400 for a full day. In addition to getting photos for the 3 issues of the Troy Today newsletter, we get photos for the website; the monthly e-newsletter we produce for Troy school students (Tim McAvoy emails our e-newsletter monthly to all Troy families); special events/programs flyers;

press releases; advertising for City facilities; economic development brochures and booklets; cable productions; and the annual Community Guide.

Albums hold all of the photos so we have them organized to use throughout the year for various projects as needed.

In one person and in one package we get all of our marketing and public relations photography requirements met. If our photos are not high quality, we run the risk of them not being included in papers or magazines to promote Troy.

Item J-11 - Property Maintenance Issues Regarding Vacant Residential Properties

Is it possible to get information from DTE whenever they are disconnecting power due to non-payment for a Troy residence or business? Would a Troy ordinance be needed or a change by the Michigan Public Service Commission to require submission of this information?

According to Mark Stimac, City staff has contacted DTE representatives regarding the question. The DTE liaison agreed to get back to us within a week, after reviewing DTE's current notification process to determine if there is a mechanism in place to notify the local municipality.

Have a good meeting,

Mary Redden, Administrative Assistant to the City Manager