



Item: Tree and Stump Removal

From: Park & Recreation Department

Prepared By: Patty Rearden, Deputy Park & Recreation Director

Presented By: Marty Basta, Park & Recreation Director

Action Requested: Reject Bids

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission reject all bids for Tree and Stump Removal.”
 2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.
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Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Commission reject all bids for Tree and Stump Removal.

Background:

The Park and Recreation Department solicited bids to remove 781 green ash trees and stumps killed by frost in April 2008. The “Advertisement for Bids” was published in the Great Falls Tribune on January 31 and February 2, 1010. The bid opening was scheduled for February 17, 2010.

Staff was not aware of the State Prevailing Wage Rate requirement for non-construction projects; subsequently, the instructions did not state that bidders would be required to pay State of Montana Prevailing Wage Rates for Non-construction Services through the Department of Labor & Industry, applicable for all contract services over \$25,000 (reference MCA 18-2-403 (1), MCA 18-2-409 and Administrative Rule 24-17-144 Obligations of Public Contracting Agencies). As a result, the bids were not opened at the February 17, 2010 bid opening. Bid packages were returned and bidders were advised that the project would be rebid to include the stipulation regarding the Montana Prevailing Wage Rates. One bidder was not present, but was notified that the project will be rebid.

Advertisement dates are February 21 & 28 and the bid opening is rescheduled for 3:00 p.m., March 5, 2010.

The referenced trees were part of the Forestry Division’s inventory, and therefore were covered by the City of Great Falls property insurance. The insurance is expected to pay for removal, disposal and replacement.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact includes the cost of re-advertising the bids and City staff time.

Alternatives:

None; bids were unopened and rejected at the bid opening.