

MEMORANDUM # M16-048

TO: Building & Grounds Committee
FROM: Dean R. Bostrom, Executive Director
John Giacalone, Director of Park Services / Development & Risk Mgt.
SUBJECT: **Skid loader, skid loader trailer, and skid loader attachments purchases**
DATE: March 28, 2016

Background

The 2016 Capital development budget allows \$60,000 to purchase a skid loader tractor, a trailer to haul it on and some required accessories. The new unit would replace a 2004 John Deer skid loader with numerous mechanical issues, most related to parking brakes and wheel motors. Each year for the past five years it has taken two parks mechanics three days to remove and re-install the wheel motors averaging \$1,500 in in-house labor. Once removed, the wheel motors are sent to John Deer to be rebuilt costing \$3,000. All this takes about three to four weeks of down time before the unit is up and running again. John Deer skid loaders are manufactured by Case New Holland; they are essentially the same machine and have similar mechanical issues.

Implications

With the mechanical problems in mind that we have experienced with Case New Holland / John Deer in the past, we developed our bid specifications around a Bobcat skid loader model S740-T4 which is rated very positively in consumer reports and numerous trade publications. Additionally we have owned Bobcats in the past and found them to be very reliable.

Additionally the Bobcat was specified because the engine is mounted sideways in the engine compartment allowing greater access to the engine components resulting in quicker repairs and less down time. The Case New Holland / John Deer's engine is mounted in-line which greatly restricts serviceability. The Bobcat also has greater lifting capacity, higher lifting height, and faster ground speed. The Case new Holland / John Deer not only have a history of mechanical issues, but they do not meet the power specification of the bid.

A formal bid opening was scheduled for March 22, 2016 9:00 am at the Triphahn Center. The vendors were asked to bid on the skid loader, a trailer to haul the skid loader around with a broom attachment for sweeping pathways and parking lots, and mechanical pallet forks for lifting pallets and trees; these particular forks hydraulically get wider and narrower. This feature if used for picking up trees and not damaging the trees root ball or trunk. We received 5 sealed bids which were publicly opened and read on March 22, 2016 at 9:00 am. The bid results are as follows:

Atlas Bobcat

Skid loader \$45,116
Trailer 5,600
Broom \$4,568
Pallet forks \$2,248
Total \$57,532.00

Bobcat of Rockford

Skid Loader \$51,109
Trailer \$6,000
Broom \$4,911
Pallet forks \$2,540
Total \$64,560.00

Martin Implements

Skid loader \$39,966
Trailer \$6,600
Broom \$5,937
Pallet forks \$2,890
Total \$55,393.00

McCann

Skid loader \$38,890
Trailer \$7,850
Broom \$5,350
Pallet forks \$2,475
Total \$54,565.00

Casey Equipment

Skid loader \$46,260
Trailer \$7,995
Broom \$6,995
Pallet forks \$6,930
Total \$68,140.00

Martin Implements and McCann are specifying New Holland and John Deer, respectively, which do not meet the bid specifications for the skid loader requirements specified.

Recommendations

Staff recommends awarding a contract to the lowest qualified bidder, Atlas Bobcat of Elk Grove Village in the amount of \$57,532.00 for a skid loader, a trailer, a broom, and pallet forks totaling \$57,532.00.