Resolution 2013-116

Resolution to Approve the Purchase of One 70 (Seventy) Foot Aerial Lift in the Amount of $84,128.00 from ABM Equipment and Supply, LLC, All in Accordance with Specifications

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) is the caretaker of Minneapolis parks, lands and facilities;

Whereas, The MPRB's Forestry Department is the steward of the Minneapolis urban forest;

Whereas, the Forestry Department performs several vital functions related to tree care, tree planting and tree maintenance for the more than 300,000 boulevard and park trees in the city of Minneapolis;

Whereas, The MPRB Forestry Department has worked closely with consultant D. Kerry Laycock on an operational review of its tree pruning operations;

Whereas, This review had the following objectives: improve occupational safety, improve operational efficiency and reduce costs, assure job security, and make the best and highest use of all employees;

Whereas, The operational review identified several changes in the Forestry Department's mobile equipment configuration in order to optimize its equipment usage and inventory;

Whereas, One of these changes was to add one 70 foot aerial tower lift and truck to Forestry's equipment fleet for use in its daily operations;

Whereas, This action is supported by Vision Theme 1: Urban Forests, Natural areas, and Waters That Endure and Captivate and Vision Theme 4: A Safe Place to Play, Recreate, Contemplate and Celebrate as articulated in the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan;

Whereas, MPRB Equipment Services has funds to replace equipment related to Forestry's equipment optimization and the Forestry Department has additional budgetary savings associated with the Forestry equipment optimization;

Whereas, The equipment being purchased is in compliance with MPRB and City of Minneapolis standard purchasing procedures;

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the purchase of one 70 (seventy) foot aerial lift in the amount of $84,128.00 from ABM Equipment and Supply, LLC, all in accordance with specifications; and

RESOLVED, That the President of the Board and Secretary to the Board are authorized to take all necessary actions to implement this resolution.

TO: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

FROM: Michael Schmidt, Assistant Superintendent for Operations

DATE: February 6, 2013

SUBJECT: Resolution to Approve the Purchase of One 70 (Seventy) Foot Aerial Lift in the Amount of $84,128.00 from ABM Equipment and Supply, LLC, All in Accordance with Specifications

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Background

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Forestry Department recently worked with consultant D. Kerry Laycock on an operational review of its tree pruning operations. This review had the following objectives:

- Improve occupational safety
- Improve operational efficiency and reduce costs
- Assure job security
- Make the best and highest use of all employees

During the study, the following safety factors were revealed:

- The number of total safety incidents and incidents leading to a lost work day, restricted duty, or job transfer (DART rate) is significantly higher than any comparison rates.
- Most safety incidents in Forestry are muscular and skeletal injuries.
- An aging work force increases likeliness of injury.
- Lifting associated with ground cleanup of fallen branches is the most significant contributing factor to injuries.

The operational review also assessed the use of equipment that supports Forestry's daily operations. The use of aerial bucket trucks, chipper trucks and chipping equipment, and log loaders was analyzed. The review focused on the volume of work completed, numbers of personnel needed to complete the operations associated with the equipment usage, and the potential of injury associated with the equipment usage.

The operational review identified several changes in the Forestry Department's mobile equipment configuration in order to optimize its equipment usage. Specifically, for a chipper configuration versus a log loader configuration, it was revealed that:

a. Chipping requires more manual handling of brush.

b. Chipping produces significant muscular strain and is the source of many Forestry injuries.

c. Chipping operations have more non-pruning time than log loading.

d. A pruning crew using a log loader takes fewer employees and support vehicles.
e. Log loaders operate relatively independently from bucket trucks.

Given these factors and as part of the Forestry Department's equipment optimization, the number of aerial bucket trucks will increase from eight (8) to ten (10). One of the two new aerial bucket trucks will reach about 32 feet while the other will reach about 70 feet. This resolution approves the purchase of the 70 foot aerial lift for the new 70 foot aerial bucket truck.

Even though only a single bid was submitted to City Purchasing for this 70 foot lift, staff believes the bid is a reasonable dollar amount and recommends approval of the purchase. Funds for this purchase are from the deferral of other Forestry equipment purchases in the 2012 and 2013 Equipment Fund budgets.

The Equipment Fund is an internal service fund that maintains and replaces large and small equipment owned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Recommendation
Staff recommends the Board approve the purchase of one 70 (seventy) foot aerial lift in the amount of $84,128.00 from ABM Equipment and Supply, LLC, all in accordance with specifications; and

This action is supported by the following vision and goal statements in the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan:

Vision Theme 1:	Urban forests, natural areas, and waters that endure and captivate.
Goal:	Healthy boulevard trees connect all city residents to their park system.
Goal:	Sound management techniques provide healthy, diverse, and sustainable natural resources.
Vision Theme 4:	A safe place to play, recreate, contemplate, and celebrate.
Goal:	Intervention and communication reduce safety concerns.

ATTACHMENTS:

- OP7731 (PDF)

Prepared By: Debra Pilger, Director of Environmental & Equipment Services, Environmental Operations
Review:
Debra Pilger Completed 01/17/2013 5:31 PM
Michael Schmidt Completed 01/23/2013 10:31 AM
Jayne Miller Completed 01/29/2013 2:41 PM

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Pending