



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Council Session

Item I-5

#2019-152 - Consideration of Approving Additional Budget to Maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery

Staff Contact: Todd McCoy

Council Agenda Memo

From: Todd McCoy, Parks and Recreation Director

Meeting: April 23, 2019

Subject: Consideration of Approving Additional Budget to Maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery

Presenter(s): Todd McCoy, Parks and Recreation Director

Background

The Grand Island Veterans Home, originally known as the Nebraska Soldiers and Sailors Home, opened in 1887. Today, the property consists of multiple buildings, the Veterans Cemetery on the southwest corner, the United Veterans Club on the southeast corner of the site, the Veterans Athletic Complex on the northeast corner, and agricultural land. The State determined a new home should be built in Kearney and earlier this year Veterans Home operations were moved from Grand Island.

It has been proposed that the State will convey the Veterans Home Cemetery to City to maintain.

Discussion

To maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval to hire one (1) six month seasonal cemetery worker (\$12,320.00), purchase a new 60" mower (\$12,500.00), 20' tilt bed trailer (\$8,500.00), and additional annual operations budget (\$14,160.00). The total budget requested is \$47,480.00.

Account	Description	Amount
10044405-85105	Seasonal Staff	\$ 12,320
10044405-85305	Utilities	\$ 5,000
10044405-85317	Natural Gas	\$ -
10044405-85324	Building Repairs	\$ -
10044405-85325	Mechanical Repairs	\$ 1,020
10044405-85335	Equipment Repairs	\$ 1,400
10044405-85350	Sanitation Service	\$ -
10044405-85390	Other Property Services	\$ 500
10044405-85419	Legal Notices	\$ 225
10044405-85428	Travel and Training	\$ -
10044405-85465	Uninsured Loss	\$ 100
10044405-85505	Office Supplies	\$ -

10044405-85535	Chemical Supplies	\$	2,900
10044405-85540	Small Tools and Parts	\$	250
10044405-85547	Materials	\$	1,715
10044405-85590	Supplies	\$	1,050
	STAFF & OPERATING TOTAL	\$	26,480
	ZTR Mulching Mower 60"	\$	12,500
	20' Tilt Bed Trailer	\$	8,500
	CAPITAL TOTAL	\$	21,000
	TOTAL		\$47,480.00

Maintenance of the Veterans Home Cemetery requires mowing, weed-eating, fertilizing, weed and pest control, aeration, dumping trash containers, litter pickup, general facility repairs, equipment maintenance, tree and landscape care, irrigation operation and repairs, etc. The Finance Department plans to use income generated from the Veterans Home property farming leases to offset the expense of maintaining the cemetery.

At this time the Parks and Recreation Department is not planning for future new burials at the Veterans Home Cemetery with exception of individuals included on the "reserved" list previously provided by the State of Nebraska.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the City Council approve one (1) six month seasonal cemetery worker (\$12,320.00), purchase a new 60" mower (\$12,500.00), 20' tilt bed trailer (\$8,500.00), and additional annual operations budget (\$14,160.00). The total budget requested is \$47,480.00 to maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the additional budget to maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery.

RESOLUTION 2019-152

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska plans to convey the Veterans Home Cemetery to City to maintain; and

WHEREAS, maintenance of the Veterans Home Cemetery requires mowing, weed-eating, fertilizing, weed and pest control, aeration, dumping trash containers, litter pickup, general facility repairs, equipment maintenance, tree and landscape care, irrigation operation and repairs, etc.; and

WHEREAS, to maintain the Veterans Home Cemetery the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval to hire one (1) six month seasonal cemetery worker (\$12,320.00), purchase a new 60" mower (\$12,500.00), 20' tilt bed trailer (\$8,500.00), and additional annual operations budget (\$14,160.00). The total budget requested is \$47,480.00; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Department plans to use income generated from the Veterans Home property farming leases to offset the expense of maintaining the cemetery; and

WHEREAS, at this time the Parks and Recreation Department is not planning for future new burials at the Veterans Home Cemetery with exception of individuals included on the "reserved" list previously provided by the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, approve the addition of one (1) six month seasonal cemetery worker (\$12,320.00), purchase a new 60" mower (\$12,500.00), 20' tilt bed trailer (\$8,500.00), and additional annual operations budget (\$14,160.00).

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, April 23, 2019.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
April 19, 2019	☐ City Attorney