



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Council Session

Item G-19

**#2020-83 - Approving Procurement for Tree Grinding and Hauling
at Third City Christian Church**

Staff Contact: John Collins, P.E. - Public Works Director

Council Agenda Memo

From: Jeremy Jones, Councilmember

Meeting: March 24, 2020

Subject: Consideration of Approving Procurement for Tree Grinding and Hauling at Third City Christian Church

Presenter(s): Jeremy Jones, Councilmember

Background

On August 7, 2019 the City of Grand Island was impacted heavily by a substantial wind storm, which damaged many trees. In an effort to disburse traffic and alleviate some of the frustration for those needing to dispose of tree debris the Public Works Department located four (4) sites throughout the City to be utilized for such. The sites opened for free tree disposal to the public were:

- 3411 West Faidley Avenue (Abundant Life Christian Center)
- 4075 West 13th Street (Westridge Middle School)
- 1800 South Adams Street (Starr Elementary School)
- 3235 South Locust Street (Community Redevelopment Authority)

Each of these sites were published as free for public use through the Public Works Department's Facebook page and press releases to the media, as well as staffed during business hours with a City vehicle at each entrance site with flashing lights.

Once the sites were closed the public began using a Chief Industries, Inc.'s property located at 1208 South Adams Street, adjacent to Starr Elementary School. The City took responsibility for the cleanup of this site as it was obvious that the public mistook it for the City's Starr Elementary School site.

Prior to contacting Grand Island Public Schools regarding use of the Westridge Middle School site, Public Works Administration reached out to Third City Christian Church for use of the northwestern end of their lot. The City was notified that there was a large event taking place and it would not be safe. At that point Grand Island Public Schools was contacted and permission was given to utilize the Westridge Middle School site, which is directly across 13th Street to the south of Third City Christian Church.

A City employee noticed tree branches were being disposed of at Third City Christian Church after such use was declined. Public Works Administration contacted Third City Christian Church to make sure it was known that the City was not directing the public to

use their property for such disposal. The secretary of Third City Christian Church stated the disposal was for their members and staff only, and not open to the public. Later City staff reported being turned away when he attempted to dispose of his personal branches.

On September 10, 2019, via Resolution No. 2019-283 City Council approved awarding a \$108,100.00 contract to O'Neill Wood Resources, LLC of Alda, Nebraska for grinding and hauling the disposed tree branches at the four (4) originally identified sites.

During the solicitation of bids for tree grinding and hauling of debris from the August 7, 2019 wind storm, Third City Christian Church contacted the Public Works Administration office requesting the City to dispose of the debris on their property. Public Works staff informed them that their site was not eligible since it was not authorized and not open to the general public. Upon insistence from the church official, the matter was referred to City's Legal Department to determine if the City could pay this expense. The City's Legal Department stated that the City could not be responsible for this site.

Discussion

While the Third City Christian Church debris disposal does not meet the City's normal procurement policy, taking debris during 2019 wind storm emergency was beneficial to the City. At least some of the Third City Christian Church officials thought the City was involved and would facilitate the cleanup, indicating some miscommunication occurred. The cost of disposing of this debris is relatively small and would clear the last remaining matter from this event.

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

Sample Motion

Move to approve.

RESOLUTION 2020-83

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2019 the City of Grand Island was impacted heavily by a substantial wind storm, which damaged many trees; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to disburse traffic and alleviate some of the frustration for those needing to dispose of tree debris the Public Works Department located four (4) sites throughout the City to be utilized for such; 3411 West Faidley Avenue (Abundant Life Christian Center), 4075 West 13th Street (Westridge Middle School), 1800 South Adams Street (Starr Elementary School), and 3235 South Locust Street (Community Redevelopment Authority); and

WHEREAS, once the sites were closed the public began using a Chief Industries, Inc.'s property located at 1208 South Adams Street, adjacent to Starr Elementary School, with the City taking responsibility for the cleanup of this site as it was obvious that the public mistook it for the City's Starr Elementary School site; and

WHEREAS, a City employee noticed tree branches were being disposed of at Third City Christian Church after such use was declined; and

WHEREAS, Public Works Administration contacted Third City Christian Church to make sure it was known that the City was not directing the public to use their property for such disposal; and

WHEREAS, the secretary of Third City Christian Church stated the disposal was for their members and staff only, and not open to the public; and

WHEREAS, City staff reported being turned away when attempting to dispose of personal branches; and

WHEREAS, during the solicitation of bids for tree grinding and hauling of debris from the August 7, 2019 wind storm at the four (4) original identified sites, Third City Christian Church contacted the Public Works Administration office requesting the City to dispose of the debris on their property; and

WHEREAS, Public Works staff informed them that their site was not eligible since it was not authorized and not open to the general public; and

WHEREAS, upon insistence from the church official, the matter was referred to City's Legal Department to determine if the City could pay this expense, with the City's Legal Department stating that the City could not be responsible for this site; and

WHEREAS, While the Third City Christian Church debris disposal does not meet the City's normal procurement policy, taking debris during 2019 wind storm emergency was beneficial to the City; and

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
March 20, 2020	☐ City Attorney

WHEREAS, at least some of the Third City Christian Church officials thought the City was involved and would facilitate the cleanup, indicating some miscommunication occurred; and

WHEREAS, the cost of disposing of this debris is relatively small and would clear the last remaining matter from this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the Public Works Administration is directed to obtain quotes, following the City's procurement rules, and clean up the tree pile (grinding and hauling) from Third City Christian Church at 4100 West 13th Street, Grand Island, Nebraska.

- - -

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, March 24, 2020.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk