



MEMORANDUM

To: Finance Committee

From: Rich Olson, City Manager
Bobbi White, Parks and Recreation Director

Date: May 7, 2013

Re: Consideration – Cemetery Mowing Contract for FY 2013-2014

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City of Elizabeth City contracts with a local company for the maintenance (grass cutting and removal of debris) for the eight (8) cemeteries located within the City. These cemeteries are Old Hollywood (Road Street and Peartree Road), Old Oak Grove (Peartree Road), Hyland Park (Peartree Road), Episcopal (Ehringhaus and Shepherd Streets), Love (Hughes Blvd.), First Baptist (Colonial Avenue), Culpepper Street, as well as Herrington Road and "B" Street. Sunshine of Elizabeth City (formerly M & W Farms) was awarded the contract in 1988 for \$39,000 and remained at that price until 2007 when a new section of Old Oak Grove was added to the contract. The price increased to \$42,000 at that time and remained at that price until 2012. Staff was instructed by council to advertise the cemetery contract for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Staff did modify the 2012-13 bids slightly to reflect the community's wishes of not spraying round-up around grave markers/head stones. Five bids were received and ranged in prices of \$41,999 to \$127,500.

ANALYSIS:

K-9 Lawn Care received the 2012-13 cemetery bid contract at a price of \$41,999. We have been extremely pleased with the service we have received from K-9. Our cemeteries have not looked this well maintained in several years and we attribute that to K-9 Lawn Care. They are extremely conscious of details surrounding the ground maintenance near grave markers/head stones and have sprayed for weeds and treated for fire ants. This attention to detail has given our cemeteries a much better appearance. K-9 Lawn Care has offered to continue maintaining the eight cemeteries during the 2013-14 fiscal year for the same price of \$41,999.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that the Finance Committee recommend to City Council that the City renew the cemetery mowing contract for the 2013-14 fiscal year with K-9 Lawn Care for \$41,999 for the maintenance of eight cemeteries located in Elizabeth City.