



REQUEST FOR ACTION CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 5/5/2026
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: Approve the Solid Ground Outdoor Services Three-Year Mowing Contract

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

The City of Baxter requested quotes for a three-year contract for mowing services. Historically, the City has entered into a one-year contract and has requoted annually for the mowing services. The three-year contract will save on staff time and allow the contractors to anticipate workload better with staffing and equipment. The weekly estimated hours expected to complete the work is 20 hours. The scope of the work in this agreement includes a full spring cleanup of the interconnect building, 3 water towers, oil dump station, 2 locations on Memorywood Drive, and 28 lift stations. This spring cleanup (estimated 60 hours worth of work) shall include: fixing damage caused by plowing snow, repairing/replacing black dirt (provided by the City), and planting grass seed (provided by the City). Also included in the scope is fall clean up (estimated 60 hours worth of work) which includes collection and disposal of leaves from Memorywood Drive stormwater outfall locations. Fall cleanup is to be completed by October 31st each year. Below are the three quotes the City received.

Cutright – (2026) \$90/hour (2027) \$100/hour (2028) \$110/hour

Croix Management – (2026) \$145/hour (2027) \$153/hour (2028) \$160/hour

Solid Ground – (2026) \$85/hour (2027) \$85/hour (2028) \$95/hour

In 2025 the one year service agreement was awarded to Cutright at a rate of \$100/hour

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The contracted mowing services is paid from three different funding sources. The stormwater ponds and outfalls are paid from the Stormwater Enterprise Fund. The mowing around the lift stations is paid from the Sanitary Sewer Enterprise Fund. Mowing of the Interconnect Building and the water towers is paid from the Water Enterprise Fund. The sum of the three budgets for 2026 includes \$46,000.

Between the spring and fall clean up efforts, it is expected to take 60 hours each or 120 hours total. With an hourly rate of \$85, this would leave 421 hours for weekly mowing. In 2025 the contracted mowing services were paid for 532 hours. Utilizing the 2026 rate of \$85 per hour, if the same number of hours are required to complete the services in 2026, this would result in a total contract value of \$45,220 which is slightly under the \$46,000 budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approving the contract from Solid Ground Outdoor Services for a three-year mowing services contract at a rate of (2026) \$85/hour (2027) \$85/hour (2028) \$95/hour.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

MOTION to approve the three-year contract for mowing services from Solid Ground Outdoor Services.