



AGENDA REPORT

New Haven, Michigan
Council Meeting May 12, 2026

MEETING DATE: May 12, 2026

DEPARTMENT: New Business

DATE SUBMITTED: April 21, 2026

PREPARED BY: Marcuz Dilbert, DPW Superintendent

ITEM TITLE: Tree-Removal – Centennial Cemetery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

DPW has solicited bids for the removal of several large trees and associated stumps located within the municipal cemetery. These trees are situated in **close proximity to headstones and adjacent residential fencing**, creating a high-risk environment for removal.

Multiple bids were received; however, not all vendors proposed a complete scope of work. Specifically, lower-cost proposals **excluded stump grinding in areas near headstones** or did not demonstrate the specialized experience required for complex removals in confined and sensitive locations.

The recommended contractor is a **licensed arborist** with experience in high-risk tree removals and has provided a proposal that includes:

- **Full removal of all identified trees and stumps**, including those near headstones
- Use of **specialized equipment and controlled techniques** to minimize disturbance
- Consideration of **risk mitigation and liability associated with cemetery property and neighboring structures**

Due to the size of the trees and their location, incomplete removal or improper handling could result in **damage to monuments, Village property, and private fencing**, leading to additional costs and potential liability.

Although the recommended bid is higher in cost, it represents the **most responsible and complete approach**, ensuring the work is performed safely and in its entirety.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that Village Council approve the award of the cemetery tree and stump removal contract to the licensed arborist, Tree Solutions LLC. in the amount of \$45,400.00, as the proposal provides the most comprehensive scope of work and lowest overall risk to the Village, despite not being the lowest bid.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW: