



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 05/23/2023

REQUESTER: Joseph Hill, Streets Program Manager

PRESENTER: Shawn O'Leary, Director of Public Works

TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2223-155: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND MTS BRUSH HOGGING DOZER AND LAWN, L.L.C., TO PROVIDE RIGHT OF WAY MOWING ALONG STATE HIGHWAY 9 WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL LIMITS OF NORMAN.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Norman is responsible for mowing the Right-of-Way along State Highway 9 within its Municipal Limits per the State of Oklahoma Administrative Code Title 730: 35-1-4(C) which states:

“Within a municipality, the Department (Department of Transportation) shall maintain the roadway pavement and pavement structure only. The Department may pay the cost of construction or reconstruction of drainage systems, curbs, sidewalks, and driveways when necessary to construct or reconstruct an existing highway within a municipality. The Department shall not perform maintenance on or pay the cost of accident or spill clean up, sweeping, mowing the right-of-way, drainage systems, and facilities including inlets, curbs, sidewalks, and driveways.”

State Highway 9 within the municipal limits of Norman is roughly 17 miles in length and equates to over 270 acres of mowable right of way (ROW). This work has been carried out historically, using contractor method as the City of Norman does not have the staff or equipment capable of adequately addressing such a large area on a routine cycle. In January of 2023, staff received notice that the previously utilized contractor for this service; All American Services, was no longer going to provide highway ROW mowing services under the state contract and would not be renewing their contract. Upon receipt of this information, staff began coordinating with peers in the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to determine other contractors available under contract for the state. The City of Norman can utilize a state contract under Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act, Title 74 of Oklahoma Statute as well as the Norman Municipal Code, 12-203(b). By utilizing state contracts for this service, the City will benefit from the economy of scale. This approach also saves time to allow the right-of-way mowing to begin immediately. Mowing season in Norman typically takes place between March and November.

DISCUSSION:

In June of 2022, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation solicited competitive bids for Right of Way Mowing and Litter Pickup. MTS Brush Hogging Dozer and Lawn, LLC of Mannford Oklahoma was selected as a contractor by ODOT to perform right of way mowing and litter pickup activities along various sections of interstate and state highway corridors. Staff is seeking approval to enter into contract with MTS Brush Hogging Dozer and Lawn, LLC of Mannford Oklahoma for an annual service contract based upon the same pricing as set forth in the State of Oklahoma contract AC-0035 between ODOT (Oklahoma Department of Transportation) and MTS Brush Hogging Dozer and Lawn, LLC. The contract further provides that any renewals would also be based on then-current pricing in the state contract. The contract further provides that services will be provided based upon unit prices pursuant to Work Order assignments, which Work Orders will be issued by City Staff as needed. The City of Norman strives to conduct mowing operations on the Highway 9 corridor roughly 6-8 times annually at an expense of roughly \$125,000. Funding for contract mowing is established in the Street Maintenance Division Business Services-Mowing-Abatement (Account 10550221-44114).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2223-155 with MTS Brush Hogging Dozer and Lawn, LLC for right-of-way mowing and litter pickup services.