THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Subject: Pack Square Park Planting Contract

Staff Resource(s): Peggy Rowe, Interim Director, Parks and Recreation
Pete Wall, Focus Area Manager, Parks and Recreation
Susannah Horton, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation

Action Requested: Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Landmark WNC LLC, of Asheville, North Carolina, for landscape installation and maintenance.

Background:

- The Parks & Recreation Department oversees and maintains the highly used urban space in front of City Hall and the Buncombe County Courthouse, Pack Square Park.
- Construction on Pack Square Park was completed in 2008 to be a signature downtown park with a high level of maintenance required.
- Reinvestment in Pack Square Park is needed due to both the age and the change in use of the park.
- The park has evolved from the original intent as a signature urban park into the City's major downtown outdoor event park.
- This change in use has created conflicts in terms of being able to effectively manage the maintenance requirements that reflect the level of service the City would like to provide.
- The mid-block fountain in front of Pack Pavilion is currently inoperable and is difficult to maintain in this inoperable state.
- A Request for Proposals was advertised for interested companies to re-landscape the plantings in the beds, modify the mid-block fountain, and provide one (1) year of landscape bed maintenance with the option to renew for two (2) additional years.
- Landmark WNC LLC was selected based on experience, qualifications, understanding of the scope of services, cost, and availability.
- Landmark WNC LLC will provide landscape installation and maintenance services.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- Staff performed outreach to minority- and women-owned businesses through direct outreach by the Asheville Business Inclusion office, solicitation processes which include posting on the State's Interactive Purchasing System (IPS) to reach out to Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) service providers, and the use of both the North Carolina Historically Underused Business (HUB) Database on the State's IPS site and North Carolina Department of Transportation's Directory of Firms for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) to identify and notify potential contractors of the IPS posting.
- There were four (4) bids submitted and despite our outreach, no Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) submitted a bid.

Council Goal(s):

- A Well planned and Livable Community
- Clean and Healthy Environment

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Contracting with a professional landscape maintenance company will allow for consistent, efficient maintenance
- Reinvesting in the park by planting urban tolerant, appropriate plant material for a heavily used public event space will provide a more sustainable landscape with respect to both plant performance and park maintenance

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for this contract exists within the currently approved Parks & Recreation department operating budget.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Landmark WNC LLC for landscape installation and maintenance services for an amount not to exceed $146,450 with option to renew maintenance services for up to two (2) additional years at $47,800 per year.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21- _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES WITH LANDMARK WNC LLC

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes to enter into contracts for services with other entities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Department issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for landscape installation and maintenance services at Pack Square Park; and

WHEREAS, Landmark WNC LLC was selected based on the qualifications, understanding of the scope of services, cost, and availability; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to enter into a contract with Landmark WNC LLC for landscape installation and maintenance services for one (1) year with the option to renew for two (2) years; and

WHEREAS, the project aligns with the City Council 2036 Vision in the following way: It supports a well-planned and livable community and harmony with the natural environment through the investment in parks and open spaces;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is authorized to execute a contract with Landmark WNC LLC, for landscape installation and maintenance services, for an amount not to exceed $146,450.00 with option to renew maintenance services for up to two (2) additional years at $47,800.00 per year.

Read, approved and adopted this 14th day of September, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney