

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. B(3)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2002

TITLE: Award of Playground Equipment for Wilson and Anderson Parks

DEPARTMENT: Recreation and Parks	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A: Resolution	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol Rosemond, Interim Director 918-7368 Jan Bryant-Berry, Purchasing Officer- 918-7301

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is to award a contract for playground equipment for Wilson and Anderson Parks to Cunningham Associates in the amount of \$97,400 and authorize the administration to proceed with necessary site work and installation of the equipment.

INFORMATION

In June 2002, the Recreation and Parks Commission appointed a Playground Committee to work specifically on this project. After the summer break, the committee worked diligently soliciting public input and developing the proposals to be sent to prospective bidders.

The process for collecting bid proposals was used successfully in the past for the Town Commons playground structure and is also used by other municipalities. It provides a means of getting the most for the money as well as encourages creativity in the design and configuration of the components and play stations for the specific proposed site.

Rather than specifying exact components, (which can often prove difficult due to variations of the same type of equipment between companies), a wish list of the desired features and a budget limit was given.

Requests for Bids were sent out on November 14, 2001 to six companies. Three companies responded to the Town's request for bids. These companies were Basnight & Associates, Miracle Recreation and Cunningham Associates. After careful review of all responses, reference checks, and review of financial status, it is the recommendation of the Recreation and Parks Commission that the bid be awarded to Cunningham Associates and that the Board authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract for the amount of \$97,400 (includes cost reduction offered for bid award of both parks).

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Anderson Park</u>	<u>Wilson Park</u>
Basnight & Associates	\$45,599.55		\$46,367.54
Miracle Recreation	\$44,653.00		\$44,008.00
Cunningham Associates	\$48,932.44		\$48,987.00

This project was budgeted in fiscal year 2002 in the amount of \$120,000.00. This budget amount not only includes the equipment and its installation, but also, all grubbing, grading and site preparation for drainage, accessibility, and other improvements required. Sungate Design, the Town's Engineering Consulting firm has surveyed the site and estimated the project costs needed for the preliminary site work. The Public Works Department may be able to perform some of this work based on time and capabilities thereby reducing the amount. Any savings will be in the area of labor, as materials and supplies will need to be charged from this budget. This will bring the total estimated project expenditure at \$120,000.

After proposals were received on December 27, 2001, the Playground Committee met several times to analyze the proposals and hold a public input meeting for the public to review the actual proposals. The full Commission approved the Cunningham Associated design on February 4, 2002 and recommended that it be forwarded to the Board of Aldermen for approval. Sungate Design was then asked to review the proposals and engineer the site to prepare estimates so that the Board would have a total estimated cost for the project. This project underwent suspension from further progress due to budget uncertainties and possible cuts until March 5, 2002. After that date, Sungate Design was give the go ahead to engineer the sites and prepare cost estimates.

It is anticipated that all preliminary site work, equipment installation, and final site work can be completed over a period of approximately three to four months following the project start which is projected for late summer. Final completion of work is projected for mid November-early December.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached resolution and award the contract to Cunningham Associates in the amount of \$97,400 and authorize the administration to proceed with the necessary site work and installation of play equipment at Wilson and Anderson Parks.