



Parks & Recreation

Memo

To: Robert Kuntz, City Administrator

From: Linda Bruer, Director of Parks and Recreation

Date: July 10, 2014

RE: Golf Course Site Characterization

In 2002 the city removed an underground fuel storage tank at the golf course and installed an above ground system for safety purposes. In order to achieve closure or a "no further action required" notification from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the city was required to install several groundwater monitoring wells in the area of the former tank to test for levels of benzene (gas) and other contaminants. According to file records, results were inconclusive and staff was advised to hold off with further testing as MDNR was revising their testing standards. Since the state did not mandate more testing at the time; the city did not voluntarily proceed with more tests.

As you know, last fall we were contacted by MDNR with regard to the site and the need for additional site characterization (soil and ground water sampling) in order to bring closure to the site. Staff solicited proposals from several local Soil Engineering firms. A contract was awarded to SCI Engineering Company who submitted the proposal with the lowest fee (\$4,265.50) and had previous experience with the golf course site. Their proposal for work was approved by MDNR; suggesting it met their testing and reporting requirements.

The sampling and report to the state, completed by SCI Engineering last fall, indicated that levels of benzene were well below acceptable state standards for groundwater contamination. However, this winter the city received a letter from MDNR requiring the city to do another round of sampling that will include soil samples to insure levels are acceptable and the "groundwater contamination plume has stabilized" before the state will issue a final closure/no further action report on the 2002 tank removal.

SCI Engineering has submitted a proposal to the city in an amount not to exceed \$21,257.50 to complete the additional sampling, diagnostics, and reporting required by the state. The Department of Natural Resources has reviewed this proposal and has indicated that it meets their requirements.

Ballwin has previously participated in the Missouri Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund Program and has nearly reached the \$10,000 deductible in order to receive reimbursement from the fund to help cover the costs of testing and reporting to the state. \$1,232 is needed to reach the deductible and then PSTIF will reimburse the city 50% of the cost of the SCI Engineering contract. If there are no diesel particulates found in the soil the city will request full reimbursement from the fund once the deductible is met. PSTIF has also reviewed the proposal to insure that the fund will cover costs proposed. In a letter to the city, PSTIF has indicated that the fund will pay up to at least \$10,448.75 towards this current proposal.

Staff is recommending award of a professional services contract to SCI Engineering, in the amount of \$21,257.50. This is an unbudgeted expense, however approximately \$7,500 remains in the budget from unexpended equipment purchases.

Again, we are working towards a closure report from MDNR. We do not anticipate any further action to be necessary following this final round of testing and reporting because it is believed that sample levels will continue to reflect no need for further testing or remediation.

If you have any questions or need further information, please let me know.