



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: July 12th, 2021

Prepared By: Kevin Schone – Public Works Director

Agenda Item: Toro Mower Replacement Consideration

Explanation: The 72" Toro Mower is scheduled to be replaced in Fiscal Year 24-25. Staff has discussed moving up the replacement schedule and trading in the 72" Toro for another Ventrac Mower. The reason for this consideration is because of the number of times the Toro has been in for repairs.

The City demoed a 72" Ventrac Mower when looking at a replacement for the WAM (Wide Area Mower), and it proved it was capable of mowing the most challenging properties. It is more capable of holding the slopes of the detention basin and hillsides, and creates an easier and safer mowing experience while being able to do a better job mowing. The WAM replacement was ordered and delivered on June 30th.

The WAM's replacement was \$19,556.80 under budget, and for this reason, staff is considering using the remainder of the budgeted amount, and the funds already set aside for the Toro mower's replacement already in the MERF account, to purchase a new 72" Ventrac for its replacement. The Toro Mower is 4 years into its replacement schedule, which means there is an estimated \$16,612.00 budgeted for its replacement. This, combined with the \$19,556.80 (\$36,168.80), is more than enough to cover the cost of the new mower.

Pricing for the Ventrac Mower is shown below and also attached.

Ventrac Tractor 72" Mower	\$27,852.00
Trade in Value for current Toro	- \$4,000.00
Freight	+ \$600.00
Setup Charges	+ \$979.00
TOTAL	\$25,431.00

Ventrac is a member of the Sourcewell network and would satisfy the competitive bidding requirement.

Fiscal Impact: \$25,431 would be costed to Account #502-000-800-1500. This is an unplanned expenditure, however there are sufficient funds to allow for this purchase.

Recommendation/

Committee Discussion Summary: Public Works have mowed with the John Deere's and Toro's and have had multiple issues with both products. With the recent purchase of a Ventrac mower and consideration of a second Ventrac, staff will have more data to evaluate for future mower purchases.

Staff would recommend that we trade in the Toro early and combine the funds designated for its replacement, with the funds saved from the purchase of the WAM, to purchase a second Ventrac Mower. There are sufficient funds in the MERF account for this expenditure.

Action Requested: Direction to move forward to the City Council meeting of July 19, 2021 for approval. Staff will also have a quote for a 72" John Deere mower at that time.