



Division of Public Works .
1000 South Houser St.
Muscatine, IA 52761

Recycling Center and Transfer Station
MEMORANDUM

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To: Mayor and City Council Members
Cc: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
From: Laura Liegois, Solid Waste Manager
Date: September 16, 2013

Recycling Center
Transfer Station
Landfill Operations
Refuse Collection

Re: Request for Issue a Purchase Order for Cart Tippers for Two Refuse Collection Trucks

Introduction:

The City of Muscatine's Refuse Collection program requested bids for a four (4) cart tippers. Three bids were received on September 5, 2013.

Background:

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget presentation for Refuse Collection, staff recommended a pilot program to start moving the refuse collection program into an automated collection program. The pilot program would add cart tippers to two (2) of the five (5) refuse collection trucks currently in our fleet. The program would start as a semi-automated collection program and would allow a step approach to moving our community into automated collection of waste. More containers would be added in the future and eventually automated collection trucks would be purchased.

The City of Muscatine's Comprehensive Plan has a section detailing the use of uniformed containers and automated collection of waste, which was part of the Quality of Life Committee's goals. This pilot program is meeting this goal in the long-term plan for the City of Muscatine.

The cart tippers would be added to our 2008 and 2009 refuse collection trucks which are the newest two trucks in our fleet. The tippers requested in the specifications are to fit close to the back of the garbage packer and are to fold up underneath the back of the truck when not in use to utilize the dump bar in the back for dumping the larger garbage dumpsters.

The three bids received on September 5, 2013 are as follows:

Mid-Iowa Solid Waste Company – Perkins Tippers	\$28,521.14
Elliot Equipment Company – Bayne Tippers	\$24,406.00
Elliot Equipment Company – Perkins Tippers	\$23,218.00

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the purchase of four cart tippers from Elliot Equipment Company for the Perkin Tippers for \$23,218. The pilot project budgeted \$50,000 to purchase tippers and containers. The total project with containers comes to \$58,143. This is over the expected cost for the pilot project; however, the Refuse Collection program has not had a full-time position filled since May 2013. The position was in the current budget but has not been filled to prepare for future changes in the program to move towards automated collection of waste. The extra cost for the pilot program would be absorbed in the cost savings from personnel.

Public Education for the Pilot Program:

Information will be posted on the City of Muscatine's website and social media sites in September and October 2013. The containers come in a 65-gallon or a 35-gallon size. The 65-gallon size is the size that will be delivered to residents in the pilot program unless a 35-gallon size is requested. Residents can call the Transfer Station office or sign up on-line for the container. All containers will be delivered between the last week of October and the first week of November. Staff will be providing a detailed update on the pilot program at the October In-Depth City Council meeting.