



Office of the City Administrator

To: Parks and Recreation Commission, Mayor Welch, Common Council Members
From: Al Hulick, City Administrator and Howard Robinson, Director Public Works
Date: September 20, 2016
Subject: Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution 2016-31 Authorizing the Submittal of a 2017 Urban Forestry Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Summary

The City Administration is requesting approval of Resolution 2015-31 authorizing the application for a 2017 Urban Forestry Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This grant is a 50% reimbursable grant with the City's share to be paid for through the existing Public Works Budget and possible use of funds from the Parks Improvement Fund.. In the past, this grant has been able to break even with no additional costs to the City outside of the existing labor and equipment costs.

Discussion

This grant is provided by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The grant activities will include safety training for chainsaw use, tree management training, a mailing to residents about the emerald ash borer, tree removal and replacement costs for hazardous or deceased trees on publicly owned land, ordinance updates, training of employees to become Certified Arborists, and application work to become a Tree City USA member.. These items and associated work are planned to be completed in 2017.

The grant request will be for \$25,000 with the city's share being \$12500. The city's share will be contributed through existing labor and equipment costs. This grant will also allow the City to hire outside vendors to conduct tree removal of some trees in hazardous locations.

Recommendation

Recommend the City Council approve Resolution 2016-31 authorizing the application for the 2017 Urban Forestry Grant with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.