



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

To: Mayor Graham and City Council
From: Dennis Sullivan, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Mary Jeanne Hutchison, Director of Parks & Recreation
Walter Denton, City Administrator
Date: August 21, 2006
Subject: MOTION – Purchase of Reel Sprinkler

List of committees that have reviewed: None.

Background: Seeding of the graded lands at the Public Safety Building Greenspace, Behrens Water Tower Site, Seven Hills Water Tower Site, and the City property at State and Smiley will be done for the third time in the next month. Conditions for the re-establishment of grass at those sites have been poor due to the weather conditions following the preceding efforts. To improve the chances of the seed taking this time and encourage grass propagation and maintenance, Public Works and Parks would like to purchase a reel sprinkler. The reel sprinkler under consideration is basically a drum with a 2" inside diameter hose wound around it. At the working end of the hose, there is a small wheel-mounted cart (the traveler) upon which a sprinkler nozzle is mounted. The desired area, basically rectangular area, to be irrigated is defined and the hose is unwrapped from the drum with the traveler at the end. As water is passed through the hose to the traveler, the water flow also causes the drum to "reel" in the traveler. The maximum size of area that the system under consideration can irrigate is approximately 200' x 360' (a football field including the team bench area) dependent on the wind direction. The system which has a gasoline powered booster pump automatically shuts down when either the flow of water is interrupted or the traveler is completely reeled in. Additionally, the whole system is mounted on turf tires and can be towed from site to site by a garden tractor or larger vehicle, or it can be placed on a trailer. (See attached pictures.)

Legal Considerations, if any: Normal equipment purchase considerations.

Budget Impact: Two manufacturers have provided quotes on machines that are very similar. The purchase price for the machine will be under \$12,000 (still negotiating final prices). As the machine will defray the need for future repair and maintenance (reseeding) of the grounds, it will be paid for out of maintenance funds.

Staff recommendation: Staff requests permission to purchase the machine meeting requirements and providing the best options for operation.