

7.6 APPROVE THE BID AWARD TO BENCHMARK COMPANIES AND CONTRACT EXECUTION FOR BRUSH GRINDING AND DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,070 - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the bid award to Benchmark Companies, Incorporated for grinding of brush in the amount of \$6.45 per cubic yard of hauled away mulch and authorize the execution of a contract for the same.

INFORMATION: The City has traditionally maintained a contract to grind collected brush and haul the resulting mulch away. The current contract is set to expire in August; therefore, a request for bids was made. The bid of the one responding vendor is attached.

The lowest bidder, Benchmark Companies, is located in Rutherford County and has recently subcontracted the City's grinding from our current bidder. According to the terms of the invitation to bid, the bid can be adjusted based upon changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers. The renewable agreement would be for a period of one year with two one-year renewal options at the discretion of the City's purchasing agent. The vendor's responsibilities under the agreement would be to located to a designated City site, grind the collected brush and haul away the resulting mulch. Over the last two Fiscal Years, we averaged 12,880 cubic yards. The cost for grinding for this Fiscal Year is expected to be \$83,070.

CERTIFICATION: The Chief Financial Officer certifies that \$83,070 is budgeted and unencumbered in Sanitation - General-Other Services.

ATTACHMENTS: Contract with Benchmark Companies; Bid Tabulation