

Staff Responses to Council Questions

December 17, 2013

9. CONSENT AGENDA

D. Resolution: Authorize a Software Maintenance Agreement with Hyland Software, Inc.

Is the Village using the most current version of the software?

No, this is not the most current version of the software. The Village is moving to a newer version of the software at no additional cost, but not the most current version. There is no need to upgrade to the most current version.

Does staff expect this company to remain in business and continue to support this software?

Yes, Hyland is a well-respected content management company and staff is not aware of any concerns over its future viability.

Has the Village ever used the after business hours customer services provided by Hyland?

No, the Village has not needed this after-hours service.

F. Motion: Award \$142,876.80 for a Three-Year Contract to Emerald Tree Care, LLC, Carol Stream, IL, for Emerald Ash Borer Treatment Services for Group 1 and 2 Ash Trees

Why are there two different contracts with two different types of treatments?

The Village's ash trees can generally be grouped into three different categories, based on age and type of ash. Each group requires a different type of treatment. Splitting the contracts allows the Village to get the best pricing for each respective course of treatment. In this case, one of the companies is the recommended proposer for two of the three groups.

H. Motion: Authorize \$50,000 Payment to the Economic Development Corporation for Tourism Related Activities

What tourism services does the EDC provide with the funding?

The Downers Grove Economic Development Corporation promotes tourism through the Downers Grove Visitors Bureau. The bureau promotes Downers Grove hotels, restaurants, events and attractions through:

- (1) Advertising in local, regional, and national publications, such as West Suburban Living.
- (2) Participation in regional and statewide trade shows, such as the Meet MidAmerica show at Navy Pier.
- (3) Memberships in organizations such as the Illinois Council of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.
- (4) Outreach to group tour operators and travel media.
- (5) Partnerships with local agencies on such projects as the design and distribution of the Forbes Magazine Top Ten designation.
- (6) Promotion and sponsorships of local events that attract tourists to Downers Grove, such as the

Fine Art Fair and GroveFest.

- (7) The Downers Grove Visitors Bureau website. The Maclyn Group is now designing a new website for the bureau.
- (8) Social media, such as Facebook.
- (9) Partnerships with the State of Illinois Office of Tourism, and Chicago & Beyond, the tourism agency for the Chicago region.

How much do other DuPage County municipalities pay for tourism services?

Municipalities with hotels, especially those with several hotels, spend a greater amount to promote tourism. For example, the Naperville Convention and Visitors Bureau has an annual tourism budget of over a million dollars. The Lisle Convention and Visitors Bureau has an annual tourism budget of more than three quarters of a million dollars. The amount of money that a municipality expends to support tourism varies depending on the number of hotels in the community, and the revenue that is generated by the local hotel tax. The Downers Grove Economic Development Corporation promotes both economic development and tourism, sharing personnel and administrative expenses to more efficiently leverage resources to promote Downers Grove as a business and tourism destination.

Please provide a table showing the Village's funding of the EDC (hotel tax and tourism stipend) from the creation of the EDC to present.

EDC Payments			
	Tourism	Hotel Tax	Total
2006	N/A	\$253,333	\$253,333
2007	\$150,000	495,590	645,590
2008	50,000	499,588	549,588
2009	100,000	452,017	552,017
2010	100,000	351,277	451,277
2011	50,000	364,456	414,456
2012	50,000	397,764	447,764
2013	50,000	416,228	466,228
Total	\$550,000	\$3,230,254	\$3,780,254

A. Resolution: Authorize a First Amendment to the Redevelopment/Sales Tax Rebate Agreement with Perillo Motor Cars, Inc. and Gold Coast Exotic Imports, LLC

What is the amount of the 2012 sales tax rebate payment to Bentley?

The 2012 payment is \$66,757.24.

Online Comments

There were no online comments this week.