

# MEMO

**To:** Park Board

**From:** Greg Vitale, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Date:** January 21, 2020

**Re:** Replacement of the Centennial Park John Deere 1445

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The 2008 John Deere 1445 is the most important piece of equipment at Centennial Park. It is used for mowing, for brushing pathways, for plowing, for working on the steep embankments of the landfill and for many other tasks. Except for a gator, it is also the only piece of equipment at Centennial Park with an enclosed cab that can be used year-round. Its replacement was deferred for the last couple of years, but it is now budgeted at \$44,000. The following 3 quotes were received:

| Company          | Location      | Model              | Price        | Notes   |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|---|
| Burris Equipment | Joliet, IL    | Kubota 4500 Series | \$40,819.73  | Most attachments are belt driven, front and rear dual wheels  |
| JW Turf          | Elgin, IL     | John Deere 1575    | \$42,685.51* | Attachments are shaft driven, closest model to the existing unit, present snowblower attachment fits this model |
| Reindeers, Inc.  | Mundelein, IL | GM 360             | \$62,210.76  |   |

All quotes include the trade-in and replacement of the current unit, the snow blower attachment, the 72' mowing deck attachment and the rotary power broom attachment. The existing snow blower attachment was replaced in the last 5 years out of necessity when the original one stopped working. It will fit the new John Deere 1575, thus saving \$4,705.57 for a total price of \$37,979.94. At this cost, the price will be \$6,020.57 below the budget.

The next closest model is the Kubota 4500 series. If the department chooses to purchase this model, they will need to replace the snowblower, too. The cost of this will be \$1,865.27 less than purchasing everything from JW Turf. However, staff is concerned that the belt driven attachments will need a lot more work than the shaft driven attachments with the JW Turf package. Also, the dual wheels on the Kubota make the vehicle wider, making it more difficult to traverse the walking paths at Centennial Park.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Park Board authorize the trade in of the John Deere 1445, the 72" mowing deck attachment and the rotary power broom attachment to JW Turf and that they award the purchase of the John Deere 1575 from the same company for a total price of \$37,979.94.