

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kenneth McLawhon, Town Administrator
FROM: Caryn Miller
CC:
DATE: 9/28/2019
RE: Alexander Property Soils Testing Resolution 2019-23

Resolution 2019-23, if passed by BOMA, approves the contract with Earthsearch for the soils testing and mapping work needed for the Alexander Drip Line Project.

Staff received bids from companies which is attached to the Resolution for BOMA to review. The lowest bidder needs to have our equipment and an operator to do the job. The second lowest bidders both came in at \$ 60,624.00 each. However, only one has their own equipment to do the job (Earthsearch) which puts it above the rest and is a cost savings to the Town in equipment and manpower. A Contract is being worked on by the Attorneys and will be attached to the Resolution for BOMA approval and execution.

There is a proposed timeline that will be attached to this Memo as to when to expect the work to be completed. It is hard to actually predict how long it will take as it depends on terrain, weather conditions, and the availability of TDEC to confirm the good soils. Those conditions will dictate actual completion dates, but Staff has been conservative and hopefully it can be completed by then. (The Hill property took a lot longer than expected because of said conditions)

Other Considerations:

As learned by the Hill Property testing, the yield of actual acreage was lower than expected. A lot of factors weigh in on the actual acres that are suitable and largely depend on TDEC acceptance. TDEC also has a requirement for additional drainage that will diminish the actual yield of usable acres for the drip field. It is very hard at this point to determine a percentage of the 75.78 acres identified as possible good soils until they are actually tested. However, the one thing that at this time is certain is that the yield will be smaller than what may be expected and possibly less than what the Hill property yielded.

RECOMMENDATION:

BOMA approve the Resolution and Contract with Earthsearch for the soil testing and mapping portion of the Alexander Drip Fields Project and allow the Mayor to execute the same.