

Request for Council Action

Originator City Manager	Item Designate Official Newspaper
Agenda Section Organizational	Date 1/5/2015

Description

The City Council is requested to consider designating an official legal newspaper for 2015. The Bloomington Sun Current/ECM Publishing is the present legal newspaper and meets the requirements set forth by the Charter and Statutes.

Fees for publication of public notices are regulated by State Statute, MS331A.06. Subd. 2, states in part, "...no newspaper may increase its rates for publication of public notices by more than ten percent per year..." The Bloomington Sun Current 2014 rates \$10.64 per inch for first insertion and \$5.72 per inch for subsequent insertions, 9 lines per inch and 320 characters per inch as reflected in the attached letter. For 2015, bid is for \$11.17 per column inch, subsequent insertions \$6.00 per column inch, approximately 320 characters per inch and 9 lines per inch.

Minnesota State Statutes 331A.03 Subd. 3. Alternative dissemination of bids and requests enables the City to advertise public notices for bids, request for proposals, and request for information through the City's website. After over a six month period of following the Statute requirements the City was able to eliminate the public notices of bids and request for proposals in the Bloomington Sun Newspaper. Starting in November of 2013, Purchasing and Engineering stopped publishing solicitations to the Sun Current. With this change in process for procurement, the entire cost of the SunCurrent activities citywide was reduced by approximately 30% from 2013 activities compared to 2014 activities. The approximate cost of SunCurrent activities in 2014 was \$28,000.

Requested Action

Staff recommends the City Council designate an official newspaper for publication of public notices in 2015.

Attachments:

Sun Current Letter