


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	24-108	Meeting:	March 18, 2024
	Agenda Item:	51	Roll Call:	24-0458
	Submitted by:	Chris Johansen, Neighborhood Services Department Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended, by adding 42-567, 42-568, 42-569, 42-570, 42-571, and 42-572, relating to the enforcement of nuisance vegetation management.

SYNOPSIS:

Add an Article into Chapter 42 – Environment to enable the City to enforce against nuisance tall grass and weeds. This enforcement would displace a program previously managed by Polk County, whose involvement ceased this past November.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$110,000

Funding Source: NS041042 - 527620

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- During the past 2023 season, enforcement of nuisance tall grass and weeds was a joint effort with the City handling inspections on complaints, Polk County issuing notices of violation by their authority, and the City contracting out for the abatement mowing of non-compliant properties.
- For the upcoming 2024 season, in order to assume the entirety of the program from Polk County, the City must adopt Code language to enable its complete enforcement of nuisance vegetation – namely tall grass and weeds.
- Comments and input from the City Council work session on January 8, 2024, have been incorporated into the proposed Code language.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 10, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0521](#)

Action: [Purchase](#) from Kaldenbergs PBS Landscaping and Lawncare (Matt Kaldenberg, President) for mowing, trimming and grass clean-up on nuisance properties for use by the Neighborhood Services Department, \$110,000. (Three [3] compliant bids received.) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Adoption of an Ordinance that will commit the City to enforcement and mitigation of nuisance vegetation moving forward.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.