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**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

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**TO: Mayor and Council**  
**FROM: Jenny Howard, Utility Director**  
**SUBJECT: Combination Backyard Digger – Aerial Device**  
**DATE: Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.**

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**Purpose and Recommended Action:**

This procurement consists of a Combination Backyard Aerial Device for the Electric Utility Department. Funding will be provided by the Capital Outlay Budget under the Fleet Department.

It is the recommendation of the Utility Director that City Council award the purchase of Backyard Digger-Aerial Device to the low bidder, Altec for \$153,566.00. As part of the 2017-2018 budget, \$175,000 was budgeted in the Fleet Capital Outlay to purchase the Digger-Aerial Equipment.

**Background:**

The City of Safford's electric infrastructure consists of power poles and primary and secondary lines, as well as equipment mounted overhead. This machine will be utilized in areas that we cannot get our trucks into: easements, narrow alleyways, ditch banks and backyards. Having this piece of equipment would remove the risk of damaging personal property, customer yards, landscaping and removing fences to get to the required work location with an improved restoration time. It will also provide an insulated device to perform hot work from and a backup digger if needed to support a pole or structure and eliminate the need to find a rental in emergencies. In addition, the purchase of this unit will allow crews to split up and work separate locations where a digger is needed and increase productivity.

The combination digger/derrick and aerial bucket is track driven with the capability of hauling two poles, transformers and related equipment, we will be able to replace poles, hang transformers and perform any conductor work in the many remote areas in our distribution system, and it is capable of getting through a 36-inch gate and has manual and remote controls.

The Electric Crew owns one digger truck, which broke down recently and we were forced to rent a replacement in order to continue normal operations, the cost of the rental for a two-week period was \$2,057.31.

**Analysis:**

In October 2017, following formal bidding procedures, we solicited bids, bids were due on October 25, 2017; four bids were received and are summarized below:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Altec	\$153,566.00
NESCO	\$190,000.00
NESCO	\$200,940.00
NESCO	\$192,700.00