

MEMORANDUM

To: Village Manager Cara Pavlicek
From: Director of Public Works Kelly Hamill
Date: 2025-10-14
Subject: An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of a 2025 Morbark Eeger Beaver Brush Chipper from Morbark LLC of Atlanta, Georgia

Overview

The Public Works Department utilizes a brush chipper for tree maintenance and removal operations to chip limbs, brush and other vegetation when clearing roads, rights-of-way and Village owned properties

Fiscal Impact

The Adopted Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget has sufficient funds for the purchase of a replacement for unit #252 as it was programmed in the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan in Account No. 11-4100-708-00 (Vehicles) in the amount of \$150,000.

Table 1 below reflects the total vehicle price for the new chipper and trade-in value offered for the Village’s existing chipper as detailed in the Vendor’s quote attached as Exhibit A. Staff is seeking spending authorization in the full amount of the purchase price in the amount of \$154,020 in case something should happen to the Village’s current equipment and it is no longer able to be traded-in. If the trade in is not acceptable, a negligible Q2 budget amendment may be required.

Table 1

Vendor	Vehicle/Equipment	Total Vehicle Price (After Dealer Discount)	Trade In Value Offered	Final Purchase Price
Morbark LLC	Eeger Beaver 2131 Brush Chipper	\$154,020	\$20,000	\$134,020

Recommendation

Approval.

Background

As part of the annual Capital Improvement Plan and Budget processes, the Village evaluates the overall condition of fleet vehicles and equipment and recommends replacements based on age, condition, maintenance history and mileage of the unit. Included in the 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Plan and the adopted Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget is the replacement of Unit #252, a 2007 Morbark Hurricane 18 brush chipper with added safety features including a bump bar which, when pushed, stops the feed rollers on the chipper to prevent accidents and injuries. This unit is used for tree trimming and removal operations and receives consistent use throughout the year.

When purchasing replacement vehicles and equipment, the Village has worked with various purchasing cooperatives such as Sourcewell (formally known as National Joint Powers Alliance), an organization that facilitates governmental joint purchasing. Organizations such as these competitively bid items and typically obtain better pricing than the Village could obtain bidding items out alone because of the economy of scale involved. As part of its letting, Sourcewell awarded a contract for brush chippers, Contract #031721-MBI (Exhibit B), to Morbark LLC of Atlanta, Georgia ("Manufacturer"), sold through Alexander Equipment Co. of Lisle, Illinois ("Vendor").

Staff evaluated brush chippers from other manufacturers and currently an all-electric or hybrid option is not available for a unit of this size and chipping capacity. The new unit will comply with current EPA Tier 4 emissions requirements. The new unit will also have added safety features such as lower bump bar and auto-stop sensors that will help to reduce the risk of accidents.

Staff recommends Village Board approval of an Ordinance authorizing the purchase of one Morbark Eger Beaver 2131-AT Chipper unit in the amount of \$154,020 exclusive of the \$20,000 trade-in value from Morbark LLC for a final purchase price of \$134,020. Based on the Vendor's current projected timeline for delivery of the chipper, delivery will occur in Fiscal Year 2025/26. Staff will be present at the Village Board of Trustees meeting and will be available to answer any questions that may arise.

An Ordinance authorizing the purchase of a 2025 Morbark Eger Beaver brush chipper from Morbark LLC of Atlanta, Georgia. The brush chipper is used by the Public Works Department for tree maintenance and removal operations to chip limbs, brush and other vegetation when clearing roads, rights-of-way and Village owned properties of unwanted materials.

[An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of a 2025 Morbark Eger Beaver Brush Chipper from Morbark LLC of Atlanta, Georgia and Disposing of Surplus Equipment](#)

[Exhibit A - Sourcewell - Morbark Contract Extension](#)

[Exhibit B - Quote for 2025 Morbark Eger Beaver.pdf](#)

[Supplemental Information - FY26-30 CIP Morbark Chipper](#)