



City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

File Number: 2023-871

Agenda Date: September 21, 2023

Department: Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

Title: 2023-871 Authorization of a Task Assignment under a Professional Design Services Agreement (B)

Department: Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

Description: Request for City Commission approval of a task assignment for design, permitting, bidding assistance, and construction administration services by Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. for the Boulware Springs Nature Park and Historic Waterworks Building Revitalization Project. These services cost \$298,878.52.

Fiscal Note: Funds in the amount of \$298,878.52 are available for design, permitting, bidding assistance, and construction administration services from the Boulware Springs Wild Spaces & Public Places ½ cent sales tax project account.

Explanation: The Boulware Springs Waterworks Building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and as an American Water Works Landmark. The Boulware Springs Waterworks is significant architecturally as an example of early 20th-century industrial architecture. Constructed between 1891 and 1908, it served as Gainesville's first water utility until 1913 and as an auxiliary source until 1977. The building's form and setting provide a unique and aesthetically pleasing combination of technology and ecology. The Boulware Springs site has been significant in the prehistoric occupation of the area as well as in its local history, as indicated in reports of various archaeological investigations. In 1853, Boulware Springs was the location of an assembly that chose Gainesville as the county seat. In 1905, the promise of free water from the springs was a critical factor in the decision to move the University of Florida from Lake City to Gainesville.

In 2022 the City hired Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. to assist with master planning of the site. A topographic and utility survey took place along with geotechnical work, wetland delineation and other planning activities. In January of 2023 an open house

was held to gather community input. The master plan for the site was finalized in April 2023.

Jones Edmunds and Associates, Inc., working in partnership with Studio MJG, LLC for architectural services and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for landscape architecture services, has put together a proposal that includes design, permitting, bidding assistance, and construction administration services. It is anticipated that the design effort will take approximately 24 weeks and an additional eight weeks for permitting before entering the procurement phase of the project. Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. is on a continuing services agreement with the city for professional design services.

Strategic Connection:

- ☐ Goal 1: Equitable Community
- ☐ Goal 2: More Sustainable Community
- ☒ Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience
- ☐ Goal 4: Resilient Local Economy
- ☐ Goal 5: “Best in Class” Neighbor Services

Recommendation: The City Commission 1) approve the task assignment to Jones Edmunds & Associates totaling \$298,878.52, and 2) authorize the City Manager or designee to execute all contract documents and other necessary documents, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.