



January 24, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Wildwood Historic Preservation Commission Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council of Wildwood
Steve Cross, Co-Interim City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney

Re: **Bid Specifications for Reconstruction of the Essen Log Cabin (Wards – All)**

Nearly three (3) years ago, the City acquired the Essen Log Cabin with the intent of reconstructing it within a City park and opening it for public use. At the time of its acquisition, the City sought a contractor with expertise in the area of log cabin reconstruction. Tim Kilby, the foremost expert in this area, was contacted and he provided a bid of approximately one hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000.00) for the project. Other bids were sought from additional contractors, but for a variety of reasons, were not provided. The Department and the Commission recommended execution of a contract with Mr. Kilby for the reconstruction, based upon his expertise, experience, and recommendations from other contractors in the field. At that time, the City Council was concerned with awarding the contract, when only one (1) bid had been provided, and instructed the Department to obtain additional bids to ensure the price was appropriate, before they would enter into a contract.

For several years, Department staff and Commission Members have pursued a number of contractors in an effort to obtain additional bids. In that time, Mr. Kilby has retired, so the one (1) valid bid that was obtained is no longer feasible. Mr. Brock Harvey, a contractor, who had worked closely with Mr. Kilby, has expressed interest in providing a bid on the reconstruction. The Department is also in contact with several other general contractors to determine their level of expertise and interest in the project. These contractors, however, do not specialize in this type of project. At this time, the Department wanted to provide an update on its progress and note its intentions to contact additional contractors for a bid within the next month or so. The Department anticipates bringing several bids to the Commission within the next few months.

If you should have any questions or comments in this regard, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned on this information at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your review of this information and input on the same.