



Town of Belmont

Department of Public Works

Memo

To: Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator

From: Jay Marcotte MPA, Director

Date: August 28th, 2023

Re: Grove Street Playground basketball court and baseball fields – Renovation Project

On July 11, 2023, five (5) bids were received for the Grove Street Baseball and Basketball Court Renovations. M.J Cataldo was the apparent low bidder at \$939,612.00. I have also attached the recommendation of our Landscape Architect and designer, Activitas Inc, recommending the qualified low bidder, M.J. Cataldo.

The schedule for this work is to start this September with an estimated final completion in fall 2024.

This project has been approved for \$941,935.07 by the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee and at Town Meeting in May of 2023. With M.J. Cataldo's low bid at \$939,612 and the cost for Activitas's design and construction administration fee of \$72,546.54, totaling \$1,012,068.50. We are over budget by \$70,133.50. The volatility of the market continues to be a challenge for us when predicting projects even as far out as 6 months. In the recommendation letter written by Activitas Inc. states that "This 7.5% escalation in cost from 2022 is a result of the current construction climate which continues to be volatile. In 2022, the costs of asphalt had come down, however, since then, asphalt costs have again risen along with costs for fencing, both of which have resulted in an increase in cost."

Due to the volatility of the market and the timing of the project, any further delays could impact the use of the fields and/or more costs. We ask that the Select Board grant the use of \$75,000 in ARPA funds to supplement this project to ensure no additional costs or delays.

And recommend that the Select Board award the Grove Street Playground basketball court and baseball fields – Renovation Project base bid for the \$939,612.00. to M.J. Cataldo of Littleton Massachusetts.

cc – Paul Cowing, Chair of the Belmont Recreation Commission
Brandon Fitts, Recreation Director