

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in Room 208.

Mayor Jim Donchess, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Patricia Klee, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu

Also in Attendance: John Griffin, CFO/Comptroller
Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
David Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Nick Caggiano, Superintendent of Parks & Rec
Doria Brown, Energy Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Doria Brown, Energy Manager
Re: Pre-approval to enter into contracts with 3rd party suppliers for natural gas and electricity supplies

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE THE ENERGY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH 3RD PARTY SUPPLIERS FOR NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

This is Ms. Brown, the City's Energy Manager and she is going to give you more of the details but we are following the same procedure that we've done in the past. The City bids for, in this case, energy/natural gas and because you need to bid at a specific moment we typically have authorized the bid to be submitted in advance. Because if she had to wait a week or month the price is gone. In any event, why don't we let Doria explain, Ms. Brown explain more of the details.

Doria Brown, Energy Manager

Alright so it's energy season, every season is energy season though and it's time to lock in on some prices for our municipal buildings. I'm also going out to bid for natural gas for the schools. This is the opportunity to lock in at lower rates from third party supplies, instead of staying on the Eversource rates which are substantially higher. So we will be looking to lock in on third party supply; but the thing about the third party supply market is that it fluctuates very quickly. So one day prices could be at an 8-year low and the next day they could be extremely high. So the ability to lock in on those prices the day that they are low and the hour they are low is very important to get the best value in these contracts. So being able to lock in then and then deliver you the contracts afterwards would be extremely helpful to get the lowest rates possible.

Mayor Donchess

And I think the gas contract is up in May?

Ms. Brown

The gas contract is up in May, electric is up in November; right now the market is extremely low and I've been itching to buy. We've been at an 8-year low for two weeks and a 9-year low right now, so it is a really good time to buy natural gas and electricity.

Mayor Donchess

And these contracts would be for what period of time?

Ms. Brown

That would depend. I normally lock in, for at the most, two years at a time to 24 months; but if prices are looking extremely low I might do a three-year contract.

Alderman O'Brien

Ms. Brown, is there a better time of year for some of these things? I would imagine I might buy oil let's say in the summer time because it's a little bit cheaper? Is that the same with the other fuels, natural gas and everything buying in an off-peak? I imagine the price goes up during heating season.

Ms. Brown

So normally that process does work so in May and June you will see lower prices, but right now the winter has been so mild, that prices have been going down because they accounted for more energy use than we have used this season. So that pushes rates to be lower. So like I said, every season is energy season because you never know how it's going to play out.

Alderman Klee

When we would lock into this price, so we said to you, ok you do it. You would lock into that price and then we would get the contract. Where this contract isn't up until May if you were to lock in like tomorrow we would lock in that and as of May that would become the official?

Ms. Brown

Yes.

Alderman Klee

So what we are doing right now is still going to stay at the rate that we are at until the May contract and then you would go 2 or 3 years however you decided.

Ms. Brown

Yes I could also lock in for November right now providing the prices are good.

Mayor Donchess

For the electricity.

Alderwoman Lu

Hi. So this is a utility or I can't thin of the word actually but do the contracts differ much? I just caught on the idea of presenting the contract afterward? Are there terms that, other than price, that we should be concerned about?

Ms. Brown

Yes there are and any contract that I sign will be vetted by Legal before I sign it. So there are different parts of the contract, like let's say we put solar on a building. There are different terms about taking that off a third party contract to go up to solar. There's stuff like that in the contracts. There's load commitments that you have to make so you have to make sure that you give them your proper energy consumption before you sign a contract with them. But I am fully confident that I have the right energy data to be able to sign a contract and get those terms to be correct for the City.

Alderwoman Lu

OK. One other question, I don't have my agenda with me, but did some of the wording have to do with the trade, the effective trade war?

Alderman Klee

This is the Agenda itself.

Alderwoman Lu

Are we going to contract for a higher price than we are currently paying or a lower price?

Ms. Brown

No the goal is to get a lower price that what we are currently paying or get the same price.

Alderwoman Lu

OK thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Could you just clarify, this has nothing to do with the choice stuff that we've been talking about?

Ms. Brown

No.

Alderwoman Kelly

That would be for consumers.

Alderman Klee

Piggy backing on what Alderman Lu had said when she talked about the terms of the agreement, I understand that the electric contract and the gas contract would be different because of solar, whatever it is, so each one would be different. But do they change, the contract terms themselves, do they change significantly from year to year? Or is just the usage and the dollar amount that would change.

Ms. Brown

Alright, that's a good question. There's a couple things that will impact there. So first we are looking to enter into a contract with a third party supply. Right now the City supplies with Constellation. If we picked Constellation again, the contract terms probably would be the same. But if we contracted with a different third party supply, then it would be a different contract. Yes they are all very similar.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager

Re: Approval for Donation of a Surplus Pickup Truck from the Parks and Recreation Department to Grow Nashua

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE THE APPROVAL FOR DONATION OF A SURPLUS PICKUP TRUCK (KELLEY BLUE BOOK VALUED BETWEEN \$5,500 AND \$6,500) FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO GROW NASHUA

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

And this is Nick Caggiano, Superintendent of Parks & Rec Department

Nick Caggiano, Superintendent Parks & Rec Department

Thank you. We were asked as a Division to see if we could locate a pickup truck that was in fair condition to help out Nashua Grows, Grow Nashua. One of the items that I have on my CERF, this vehicle is going to be replaced in July so it will kind of work out. So we talked about it and the Director asked me to put a Memo together and work with Mr. Kookan to get the necessary paperwork to transfer this vehicle to the non-profit Grow Nashua and help with collection organic material from residents and restaurants to compost it.

Mayor Donchess

So they have a composting program and they through that initiative of theirs, they do remove organic materials from the waste stream. And they have come to the Board of Public Works and have talked at great lengths about this program and the Board of Public Works suggested that when a vehicle became available such as this, we would help them by giving them a pickup truck and help them to expand their collections. Try to get more customers and restaurants, residential customers.

Alderwoman Kelly

I'm sure you are surprised I want to talk about this one. Yeah just to expand a little bit on the conversation, Grow Nashua came to Public Works Committee when we wanted to talk about composting the City and what we could do to expand it. We had talked with the Department about what we could do with the City. We had looked at Cambridge composing Citywide. And what we found out was that they still contract a third party to take their compost. Right now our landfill cannot take that capacity. So Justin said I have this program in place already, it is a pay program, the thing that I need most that would allow me to expand and help more people in Nashua would be a truck. So in that conversation we all kind of agreed that would be a good first step to help expanding composting in the City. So I would say that's it is good we found him a truck and then look forward to seeing the work he'll do.

One of the things that he mentioned that I thought was really interested is that not only is he doing this educating people but also employing people within the community, a lot of times maybe they don't speak the language, that kind of thing. This is a really good job for them to be able to do. So I look to that part of his mission as well.

Alderman Laws

I think it's great also and thank you Alderman Kelly for spearheading this or whatever. It's worth mentioning I imagine, Mr., Kooken, a blue book value of \$5,000.00, we wouldn't get that if we were to sell this truck. So it is not like we are taking \$5,000.00 off the profit.

Dan Kooken

Probably not, we wanted to give an honest evaluation, but if we put on auction, you probably wouldn't see \$5,000.00, we'd see somewhat less than that.

Alderman Laws

I think it is a great idea regardless, but in case anybody was worried about that.

Alderman Klee

Alderwoman Kelly you had mentioned about a pay for it, so does that mean that when they pick up the composting and so on, the person donating also pays for it to be picked up, is that correct. Is that what you meant by pay for it?

Alderwoman Kelly

Yes, so you know, the initial thought was how do we get this so that City people can get access to composting and this is in place but I think it's \$25.00 a month or \$30.00 a month.

Mayor Donchess

It's \$25.00 a month.

Alderwoman Kelly

I have some videos on that but I think that for now just the ability for him to expand. You say in his letter how much they've been able to do with just one truck, 60,000 pounds has pulled out.

Alderman Klee

Yes it says 60,000 pounds per year to over 200,000 pounds per year they are going to be able to do.

Alderwoman Kelly

I think it would be awesome if we could do composting citywide; we are not there yet. He's saying that with this donation he can expand from 60,000 to 200,000. So I think it's a pretty good bang for a buck in terms of investing in a non-profit in the area and helping with the waste.

Alderman O'Brien

Yes as Mr. Caggiano can probably say, I'm all about repurposing vehicles particularly for this worthwhile cause. But I want to thank you in particular for supplying this committee pictures of the vehicle.

And from what I can see of the pictures it does seem to be a vehicle that does have a quality second life for such a worthy cause. So thank you for that extra work in doing that.

Mr. Caggiano

Thank you.

Alderwoman Lu

I've never heard of this group. I wish that they had been able to come and how many clients do they currently service, does anyone know?

Mayor Donchess

Not a huge, huge number, do you know?

Mr. Caggiano

So Grow Nashua has been working in the City for many, many years and we've worked and partnered with them to create community gardens in areas that are somewhat blighted and it has been very successful. Justin has been involved with putting the community gardens on the rail trail and was involved in the community gardens that are behind Citizen's Bank which he rents out and they rent out to people; very, very inexpensively to grow. And I am currently working with him on a project over at Salem and Toll Street. There is a little playground that we are renovating and across the street, the Toll Street Mission they used to call it. We are going to be putting in community gardens there as well through a grant. We are going to be able to supply garden space for people in those neighborhoods. That's what he does; he's also done a lot of work with the schools as well.

Mayor Donchess

Gardens at various schools.

Alderman Klee

You see a lot of small ones also on Manchester Street, going part way down, there's a little triangle that's also a Grow Nashua little tiny community garden. They have herbs and different things there. And their web site is GrowNashua.org.

Alderwoman Lu

Oh I went to the website and I didn't see any way to find out.

Alderman Klee

Find out about them?

Alderwoman Lu

I mean I am just a little, it's new to me the idea of giving an asset to someone that we want to, I guess. To me it does seem like \$4,000.00 just giving to somebody because they asked. I don't have a relationship with him, it sounds like he's been around for awhile now that you've answered my question to me, of mine rather. But when he does make the gardens around town, do we give him the spot to do it in and he puts in like sweat equity? Is that his contribution?

Mayor Donchess

Yes. So sometimes the garden plots are on City land but sometimes not like over at Citizen's Bank it is on private property owned by the bank. But they raise money and get grants and the like to help pay for this at their end. The City then provides land or maybe helps out with some labor.

Alderman O'Brien

Mr. Mayor if I may too? Alderman Lu, while I was kidding with Mr. Caggiano in discussing this, the Fire Department had a bucket truck that no longer met their standards, yet we transferred it down to Park & Rec. So repurposing vehicles that are still good, if they go up, the State has, just for your information, like White Farm where they have an auction and we really get nothing in the way from these vehicles. I mean we do get something but you know they go off and people buy them on the cheap and stuff like that and they have a second life. So committing something like this, in my opinion, to something that is as worthwhile as this group, as with the bucket truck, probably saved you some extra work and makes sense to the tax payers to try to find a second life for some of these vehicles.

Mayor Donchess

So thinking about what he is contributing to the City on the other side, taking what did we say 60,000 pounds so far, so that's 30 tons. So we estimate the landfill space is worth \$85.00 a ton maybe a little bit more. So 30 tons is you know \$2,400.00 or around there of landfill space that has not been used. As a result of this truck, if he could do 200,000 pounds, now we are talking about 1,000 tons aren't we, which would be more like \$8,000.00 a year just in a year. So he is saving the City in the long term through the preservation of landfill space by taking this material out of the waste stream.

Alderwoman Kelly

A couple of things, I actually wanted to reply to what you said. I think we can quantify it but I also think that we need to look at the bigger pictures. One of the things that we have put out as a City is we want to be greenhouse gas free by 2050 and this is one of the – as much as composting doesn't seem like it is a way for us to that way, it actually is because not only are we saving space in the landfill but we are also saving waste that would otherwise be burned, so there's that portion of it.

You were asking about how the program works and I know I'm a little bit behind, but it is \$25.00 a month and every dollar is reinvested back into the things that he does for the City. So I think that that's really helpful as well. And one of the things that he talked about that I thought was interested and one of the things we are going around about, is that as a municipality composting can create problems because people don't know how to do it properly or it's hard for them; or those types of things. So the way that he runs it, it's really simple; like if you have a bucket and top, you put your stuff in a bucket they take it away and they bring you a clean bucket.

Mayor Donchess

And you get soil at the end of the year.

Alderwoman Kelly

And you get soil, if you like soil, that real rich soil. So I think those are a couple of notes that we had at the community meeting that I think are worthy of bringing forward.

Mayor Donchess

Any other thoughts or questions?

Alderwoman Lu

Just a couple. Where does he do that, where is the composting done?

Mayor Donchess

I don't know where he does it' it's not at the landfill.

Alderwoman Kelly

He has a third party vendor that he bring it to.

Mayor Donchess

Yes I think he brings it to someone and gives him soil or something.

Alderwoman Lu

And I just wanted to point out, I mean this is a little different than taking a vehicle and passing it on to another Division of the City. This is taking a vehicle and giving it to a non-profit.

Alderwoman Kelly

I would say that a public-private partnership is not something new to the City and we use that, in my knowledge of being on the Board, it's stuff that has been done or precedence to work together especially in places where there are doing it more effectively than we can do.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: Purchase of Personal Protective Clothing/Equipment (Value: \$48,988) Department: 152 Fire Rescue; Fund: General

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,988 TO BERGERON PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 152 FIRE RESCUE; FUND: GENERAL

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

The Deputy is here to I think tell us briefly what this purpose is?

Steve Buxton, Nashua Fire Department

This is just basically in line with our line item that we replace our protective clothing; that would be the boots, jacket and coat that firefighters wear every single day. We replace them; roughly on a 5 to 6 year window. We are required by NFPA standards to replace them every 10 years for any interior structural firefighting. So this is just in line with that purchase for the year.

Alderman O'Brien

Just to assist Chief Buxton but fire fighters today need two sets of gear. Can you explain with hazardous conditions. We could have all the gear wiped out at one particular fire call.

Deputy Buxton

It's actually funny you say that; so as I referenced according to 1971 and 1851, those are NFPA Standards, I'll let Deputy O'Brien factor up those numbers for you. We are required for interior structural fire fighting to keep our members in gear that is under 10 years old. So with the amount of members that we have, that requires us to replace it within the 5 to 6 year timeframe. So if the people working this evening were to go to a fire, when they came back to the fire station, they can't wear that PP, Protective Clothing at this point in time, they have to launder it, let it dry, which is a process. So everybody has two sets of gear. The second set of gear that our members wear, we try to keep them somewhere in between 6 and 10 years to keep us in that window. In reality we have some outliers that fall 10 to 13, 14 years; but really the only time that they are wearing that is when their other gear is in the wash sort to speak. So it's very minimum amount of exposure.

Alderman Klee

If I've done my math we are looking at like 20 suits?

Deputy Buxton

Correct. This amount will allow us to purchase 20 sets. Sometimes we break it down into smaller purchases that's why you won't always see us in front of you requesting permission. But we are doing a larger purchase at this point in time.

Alderman Klee

Are you doing a larger purchase because we need it or a larger purchase because we got a really good price.

Deputy Buxton

Both. Many, many years ago we received a grant through the Federal Government to replace and purchase the entire fire department a set of protective clothing. That was when the Nashua Fire Department went from one set of gear for a member and you just wore it wet and dirty and it was what it was. It allowed us to give every member two sets of gear. The great thing about grants is it gives us the ability to do things that we don't normally be able to do and the bad thing about that is you have to carry those programs and it kicks the can down the road sort to speak. So we are kind of in that replacement program cycle where now we have enough members left over that we have to do larger groups for when we purchase that protective clothing many years ago.

Mayor Donchess

Any other questions or discussion?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager

Re: Contract for Crown Hill Pool Rehabilitation (Value: \$34,200) Department: 177 Parks and Recreation;
Fund: Capital

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE THE CONTRACT FOR CROWN HILL POOL REHABILITATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,200 TO FORCIER CONTRACTING & BUILDING SERVICES, INC. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 177 PARKS AND RECREATION; FUND: CAPITAL

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Caggiano?

Mr. Caggiano

Nick Caggiano, Park & Rec Department. The Crown Hill Pool Rehabilitation we started last year, we rehabilitated the actual surface, put in some new fixtures, we did some leveling of the pool the deck and the next phase is to actually work on the bath house. It needs a new roof, it's probably been roofed from some time in the 70's; it leaks. We need to put in new fixtures in the bath houses and the showers, counters, sinks. So a lot of the outside interior work with sheaving and siding needs to be done. We went out to bid and Forcier Contracting was the low bid. They've done work for us in the past, we want to try to get this done before pools open in June.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I was just going to say put the priority to opening day on this and it sounds like you are already ahead of it to do so. Nothing more disappointing when one of our quality pools is closed.

Mr. Caggiano

It's our largest pool and for a lot of the children in the neighborhood, the pool sometimes is their vacation for the summer, they spend a lot of time there. So it is kind of important to be able to give them a good experience, you know.

Alderwoman Lu

Is that right behind Dr. Crisp School.

Mr. Caggiano

Sort of, it is off of Burke Street, it is right next to Girls Inc.

Alderman Klee

Just one quick question I know we went with Forcier Contracting, so did it go out for bid?

Mr. Caggiano

Yes it went out to bid and we received three bids.

Alderman Klee

Three bids, that's what I thought I read. Ok.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
Re: Portable Toilet Contract (Value: \$32,140) Department: 177 Parks and Recreation; Funds: General and Trusts

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE THE CONTRACT FOR PORTABLE TOILETS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,140 TO UNITED SITE SERVICES. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 177 PARKS AND RECREATION; FUND: GENERAL AND TRUSTS

ON THE QUESTION

Mr. Caggiano

We put out 32 units every year at various parks throughout the City. This was put out to bid competitively through our vendor list and our web site. We only received on bid, it was a little more than I could afford to spend on this so we negotiated with them and we actually got them to reduce their cost. So that worked out pretty good.

Alderwoman Kelly

It's important stuff when you are at out at the park. Real important. So when you negotiated did you get down to where you were or even lower?

Mr. Caggiano

No he held his price, United held their price for over 10 years. So it was time and I understood that but it was almost going to be doubled and we just said "no". We tried to negotiate with them a little bit and they looked at it and they sharpened their pencil.

Alderwoman Kelly

Can I follow up? I know there are definitely spots that we have to have portapotties. Do we ever look at what the long term costs of renting these is against putting in actual bathhouse or bathroom that would be there?

Mr. Caggiano

Bathhouses are expensive so if anybody does construction, you know if you redo a kitchen or a bathroom it's \$300.00 a square foot is a pretty good price to go on. And when you do it commercially with the type – hundreds of thousands of dollars could be spend. Then there is not water at all the parks, we would have to bring in sewer, it's a big thing. I don't ever see us getting away from portable units.

Alderwoman Kelly

I am sure there are places where it definitely doesn't work, I was just asking if we have ever looked at that, "Oh this does have water, it does make sense, we should put in a bathhouse or just a small bathroom".

Mr. Caggiano

We do have them; at Mine Falls by the soccer fields, that made sense there, we were right on top of the sewer, and the water was there. We have time locks on there so they are only available for us during normal business hours. So somebody can't go in and vandalize it.

Alderman O'Brien

I am kind of just wondering how are we with the liability as far as any vandalism to these things?

Mr. Caggiano

They are, within the contract, they are responsible. So occasionally they'll tip one over, gross but not bad. We have had them burned before and they are insured, and if they get vandalized, that's on the contractor.

Alderwoman Lu

Just two questions. How often, what is the billing cycle, is that a month?

Mr. Caggiano

A month.

Alderwoman Lu

OK and only have three ADA's so are there some places where we don't have an ADA there?

Mr. Caggiano

We have ADA's at Roby Park because we have an ADA playground there. We have one at Legacy Playground because that's an ADA playground and I want to say, catch me on this one, I don't have the sheet. I want to say the other one is down at Whipple Street at the entrance to Mine Falls Park.

Alderwoman Lu

I just thought that we'd need one at every spot that we have to, but I guess that is not the requirement.

Mr. Caggiano

No and the cost is pretty significant to upgrade that.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: Energy Recovery Upgrades – Construction Services – Change Order 4 (Value: \$49,167)
Department: 169 Wastewater; Fund: Wastewater

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER #4 FOR ENERGY RECOVERY UPGRADES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES - IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,167 TO METHUEN CONSTRUCTION. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Caggiano?

Mr. Caggiano

I'll be speaking for my co-workers, they couldn't make it tonight on these next two items. David is looking for a Change Order #4 for an amount not to exceed \$49,168.26. The basic need is to modify the generator pads and re-do the ceiling pipes support structure.

The energy recovery building takes methane from the digester egg and through the generator produces energy that gets fed back, and we make money on that. We just need to upgrade that.

Alderman Klee

I don't know if you can answer this but we sell it to a third party correct? We are not using it within the City?

Mr. Caggiano

So some of the energy and again, I'm limited here, I know that they do use the energy at the plant and any excess gets sent back to the grid.

Alderwoman Kelly

You may not know the answer to this but I wonder if this is the unit by the dam that we got back on line earlier this year?

Mayor Donchess

No this is at the waste water treatment plant.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager

Re: Landfill Gas Expansion – Changer Order 1 (Value: \$135,140) Department: 168 Solid Waste; Fund: Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR LANDFILL GAS EXPANSION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$135,140 TO SCS FIELD SERVICES. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: BOND

ON THE QUESTION

Mr. Caggiano

Again, Nick Caggiano, Parks & Rec Department Superintendent. Speaking for Superintendent LeFluer as part of the landfill gas expansion system, they need to do a change order of \$135,140.00 to repair and replace some of the horizontal and vertical gas wells. These wells are at the landfill, they vacuum of the methane that is produce from the trash and it is sent to an energy recovery spot, a flare or the generator that is managed by a third party.

Alderwoman Lu

I just wondered if you could tell me about the phrase "pending bond approval"? Is this a large project that has been bonded and this is just something more that needs to be done or added to it.

Mr. Caggiano

I am going to pass the baton to the Mayor. I believe it's a bond.

Mayor Donchess

Yes. So the landfill, we are required by DES, the Department of Environmental Services, to collect gas out of the landfill. It is burned and generates electricity, that part of it is done by the third party provider. So these expansion projects and a lot of the work at the landfill and there is a lot going on because they are constructing

Phase III and there's always something happening is a bonded project. This is subject to approval of the bond by the Board of Aldermen. Bond means it is borrowed money.

Alderwoman Lu

So I guess what I was confused about is if the project is already started, then the bond has already been approved but what needs to be approved, why does it say "pending bond approval" \$135,000.00 added to the bond?

Mayor Donchess

Well the project hasn't started in the sense that this work is a change order, meaning it is additional work beyond what has already been authorized. So this is subject to a bond approval that covers a bunch of stuff out at the landfill by the Board of Aldermen. So this part of the project has not begun and won't until the money is available.

Alderwoman Lu

I see. OK, thank you.

David Fredette, City Treasurer

Mr. Mayor I think I'm not sure but this might have been given to purchase a while ago because the Board of Aldermen approved the bond in December for the landfill and I think this was part of that bond. So maybe they wrote this up before the bond ...

Mayor Donchess

So David is thinking that we've already approved the bond which I think, thinking about it, our public hearings aren't on this so this is already approved.

Alderwoman Lu

It was a detail I was confused about.

Mr. Caggiano

I should point out that Memo was originally written in September. So that's why.

Mayor Donchess

It's dated September, we should have noticed that.

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 10, 2020 TO JANUARY 31, 2020

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Committee Clerk