

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 20, 2019

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Vice Chairman, presided.

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

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

Also in Attendance: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
David G. Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Sarah Marchant, Director Community Development
Stephan Dookran, City Engineer
David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater
Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

Chairman O'Brien

Alright I did hear from the Mayor who is tied up on other business and I did receive communication from Alderman Klee and Alderman Gathright. For those that know we've had inhumane days for two days up at Concord so they are traveling; so they may be late or unable to attend the meeting. I am going to declare a quorum and to repeat we did start the meeting at 7:00 p.m. promptly.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
Re: Library Courtyard Renovation

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO CRJA-IBI CONSULTING SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$104,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 181, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT; GENERAL ESCROWS

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Is anybody here that would like to speak on that from the City? Ms. Marchant please come forward thank you. Please have a seat The gentleman to your immediate left seems to have a question.

Alderman Laws

Thank you, if we approve this, when does work start and when does it end?

Sarah Marchant, Director Community Development

Great question. The project would be started for engineering and design, hopefully in June, designed over the summer, going out to bid next winter for construction next spring.

Alderman Laws

Shameless plug here, the second Pride Parade for Nashua on June 29th this year so I just wanted to make it didn't interfere because we are having it at the library.

Ms. Marchant

The goal is to have it done in time for the Library's 50th Anniversary which is the end of next summer I believe. So we are trying to get it – construction will affect things next summer.

Alderman Laws

Excellent, thank you

Chairman O'Brien

And to give a lead in if I may I will recognize Alderman Kelly afterwards. This courtyard renovations, this is where we have had some of our, in the past, movie nights and everything during the summer. So this will greatly improve and enhance that to the community correct?

Ms. Marchant

Correct. I will say the design is intended to be done in phases, we believe that the design will likely be more than the City is willing to spend next year to implement all of the improvements. With the multi-tiered plaza and ADA grading items that we want to fix and make better, it is a pretty comprehensive and large project and so the goal is to get a true community space and so that is what we are working towards.

Alderwoman Kelly

Actually you started to answer my question I was sort of wondering where we were with design. You said design would start after that, so do we have a preliminary or just general check off items that we'd like to see?

Ms. Marchant

We don't have anything yet, we have ideas in people's heads and ideas of this group and this committee. The library has some ideas very specifically of what they need and want to get out of the space. So those ideas were laid out in the RFP and the goal is to work with this consulting group. We will have some public meetings, most likely in June, to kick it off with some preliminary ideas, visions, 3D demonstrations. Things to get people's thought process going so you can give good comments and say what you really want; it will be very public one we get going.

Alderwoman Kelly

Follow up if I could, thank you. So is this \$104,000.00 just for getting the design going?

Ms. Marchant

Design and permitting.

Alderman Kelly

Because we don't really know what it is going to look like.

Ms. Marchant

And engineering correct, yes.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: Aquatic Invasive Species Control and Management

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO SOLITUDE LAKE MANAGEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$65,713. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS DEPARTMENT: 181, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT; GENERAL ESCROWS

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Ms. Marchant you are going to speak on this as well? Very good, any questions by members of the Board?

Alderman Caron

Yes thank you, this is just a continuation of the work that you've been doing for the last umpteen years, right?

Ms. Marchant

Yes this is the same 84 acres north of ... upstream from the Mine Falls Dam that we will be treating with aquatic invasive herbicides

Alderman Caron

And you're doing Sandy Pond this time?

Ms. Marchant

Sandy Pond will be done this year as well as it was last year and we saw some improvement. We will not be doing the Mill Pond and Canal this year, that is an every other year rotation in partnership with Parks & Recreation.

Alderman Caron

Thank you.

Alderman Laws

This is more maintenance than it is a solution to a long-term problem, right, just going gone into perpetuity?

Ms. Marchant

Most likely unfortunately yes, but we are having better partnership with our neighbors upstream, specifically from the Pepperell Dam, the new owners of that. Their licensing agreement requires them to do a little bit more as well. So we should see a reduction over time in this. But we do believe that water chestnuts which are not included in this will be a bigger problem this year from the amount that went over last year so we are working with volunteers to see what we can do to get ahead of that this summer.

Alderman Law

Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
Re: Purchase of Two (2) 2019 Ford Transit Cargo Vans

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE FROM GRAPPONE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,857. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 191, SCHOOL; CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Anybody here to discuss, Mr. Kooken? Do I have any questions from any members of the Board?

Alderman Caron

Yes thank you. What are these vans used for?

Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager

Transport throughout the City mostly. I think that the two vehicles we are replacing are both over 100,000 miles

Alderman Caron

Right I saw that.

Mr. Kooken

They both have served their useful life, this is a CERF expense.

Alderman Caron

But they are not a particular reason like busing or ..

Mr. Kooken

No they are pretty standard vans, one of them has a kind of metal workers machinist kind of thing for repairs, the other one is more basic.

Alderman Caron

Ok thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: 2019 Asphalt Testing

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO S.W. COLE ENGINEERING, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,600. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS DEPARTMENT 160, ADMINISTRATION/ENGINEERING; BOND FUNDS

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Ok if the Alderman can hold on this question, do you want to come forward? Thank you for joining us.

Alderman Laws

I was just curious because we did this last year as well and I understand the necessity of the expense. Did they catch anyone using a mix that wasn't appropriate last year?

Stephan Dookran, City Engineer

No actually the testing program is very successful and the idea of it being it comprehensive is to keep everyone honest. It is difficult to catch anyone; we did have a couple of failures, we do compaction and a couple other tests did fail. There are provisions in the contract that if you have such a failure you can reduce the payment and so we are going through that process.

Alderman Laws

Is that the only course of action that we have is to reduce a payment, we can't make them re-do the road?

Mr. Dookran

Yes so if it gets, so for compaction you are allowed up to 91% compaction; you try to achieve up to 91% - let's say if it is 89% you can reduce the payment by a certain sum. If it gets to the point where it is not acceptable then they will have to repair the street. We haven't gotten to that point.

Alderman Laws

Ok I was just curious, thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
Re: Wet Weather Facility Screening Upgrade – Design and Bidding Phase

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO WRIGHT PIERCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$178,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 169, WASTEWATER

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman O'Brien

Mr. Kooken are you going to field this one as well or – Mr. Bouchard, please come forward thank you. State your name for the record. Thank you.

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent.

Alderman O'Brien

Ok any questions by any members on the Board? Thank you for coming up.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kooken, Purchasing Manager
Re: Casella Recycling, LLC Contract Change Order #1

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH CASELLA RECYCLING, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$120,000. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS DEPARTMENT 168, SOLID WASTE

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Any questions from any of the members of the Committee? Ok can you just go over, because at the last Aldermanic Meeting, the Board did discuss this and everything so just to reflect, I'm going to have you speak mostly to the viewing public at home and explain the situation with the recyclables as it is right now please.

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

Yes sir, thank you. Jeff Lafleur Superintendent Solid Waste. The Solid Waste Department, we budgeted \$400,000.00 to take care of our recycling, that is shipping it out and having it processed. We have expended that or we will be expending that by the end of March. Market is in, China is not accepting any or very little recycling from the United States right now so it is affecting our recycling rates. We are seeing higher rates monthly per ton so that is how we expended the \$400,000.00. We asked the Committee, actually we asked the Board of Public Works, it was favorably recommended that we expend another \$120,000.00 to carry us through the rest of the Fiscal Year and then we budgeted the same for next year and we will see how it goes.

Chairman O'Brien

Ok very good.

Alderman Kelly

Thank you, I apologize if this is a question that you covered when I was unable to attend last week, but do we have a plan, like what is our contingency if this just continues and continues.

Mr. Lafleur

We will have to discuss that next year. We are trying to finish out a full year to see where the markets are; they are fluctuating so much right now – hopefully it will start to stabilize. We just dropped another \$14.00 a ton, it went up \$13.00; went down \$14.00. So we are still in the ballpark where we should be. Over the fall it went real high like almost \$90.00 a ton which is crazy, we've never seen that before. Now we are down in the \$70.00 range where we budgeted for, real close to that. So we will just have to see what the markets are doing and then we will have to make a touch decision at some point.

We did mention that one of the options at our last meeting was to landfill the recycling and it is just not the right thing to do right now. We want to try to do everything we can for the environment and for the airspace, I mean that will eat up a lot of airspace for the City of Nashua and our landfills.

Chairman O'Brien

Additional questions from members of the board? Mr. Lafleur if you saw the last Aldermanic Meeting there was great interest in this and I think we are going to have to put our heads together with your division and everything to try to come up with something. As the way it is, nobody foresaw, the reflect it had to do more international trade and anything else, so we will get it done hopefully.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: Phase III Landfill Construction Quality Assurance Services

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO SANBORN HEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$255,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT 168, SOLID WASTE; BOND FUNDS
MOTION CARRIED

From: Dan Kookan, Purchasing Manager
Re: Phase III Landfill Construction

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND, CONTINGENT UPON BOARD OF ALDERMEN APPROVAL, AWARD THE CONTRACT TO CHARTER CONTRACTING COMPANY, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,525,525. SOURCE OF FUNDING IS DEPARTMENT 168, SOLID WASTE; BOND FUNDS

ON THE QUESTIONChairman O'Brien

Mr. Lafleur where this is such a large dollar amount, could you just give us what the Phase III is, I know it is increasing our life expectancy to the landfill correct?

Mr. Lafleur

Yes sir. This is going to be about a 5 to 6 acre expansion to our landfill, it is going to give us about 10 years airspace. It is needed; we are at a point we are in our landfill right now that we can't capture all the airspace in Phase I and II until Phase III is built, we are building ourselves into our pyramid which is making our area

smaller. So once Phase III is designed and built, we will be able to capture all of the airspace that's in Phase I and Phase II.

Chairman O'Brien

Alderman Laws did you have something additional?

Alderman Laws

You took the words right out of my mouth.

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2019 TO MARCH 15, 2019

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN CARON TO ADJOURN

MOTION CARRIED

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Committee Clerk