

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

AUGUST 3, 2022

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber and via Zoom. The meeting link information can be found on the agenda.

Mayor Jim Donchess, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Patricia Klee, Vice Chair
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons

Also in Attendance: Alderman Derek Thibeault
John Griffin, CFO/Comptroller
Cheryl Lindner, Treasury Management Officer
Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director
Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Bryan Conant, Park and Recreation Superintendent
Jon Ibarra, Streets Superintendent
David Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent
Dan Hudson, City Engineer
Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director
Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Alderman Alex Comeau
Re: Lighting for Labine Field/Finance Committee Meeting on August 3rd

There being no objection, Chairman Donchess accepted the communication and placed it on file.

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Re: Animal Impoundment and Quarantine Services in the amount not to exceed \$99,081 funded from 56214 Humane Society - Animal Control/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$99,081. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT: 171 COMMUNITY SERVICES; FUND: 56214 HUMANE SOCIETY – ANIMAL CONTROL/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Hi, thank you. Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager. Director Bagley was not able to join us tonight. The Humane Society is a contract that we do every year with them and it is at the same cost year over year of \$99,081. They provide services for housing animals, dogs, cats, and other small animals, adoption of stray animals, veterinarian services, owner location of stray animals, and the quarantine of unvaccinated dogs and cats that have been bit by a person or another animal. They also process the animals that have been found to be positive with rabies. Director Bagley receives a quarterly report on the animals that come in and all the tracking that they do for us with this contract.

Mayor Donchess

This has been in place - we've had a contract with them for decades I think, right?

Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Yes. This has been going back many, many years. Director Bagley has been very happy with the services that the Humane Society of Greater Nashua has provided.

Mayor Donchess

Questions, comments?

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. First I'd like to welcome Ms. Girard. Thank you so much for joining us.

Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Thank you.

Alderman Klee

Mr. Mayor as you as you pointed out, this is the same contract, the same dollar amount that's been year after year. There's been no increase in it and so on and I agree with Director Bagley. I think we've gotten really good service and technically they're the only game in town. Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of a lighting structure system for Labine softball field in the amount not to exceed \$265,721 funded from 81304 Lighting Equipment/Park Rehabilitation Trust Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 LIGHT STRUCTURE SYSTEM INCLUDING LED LIGHTS FOR LABINE PARK FROM MUSCO SPORTS LIGHTING OF OSKALOOSA, IA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$265,721 PURSUANT TO THE SOURCEWELL CONTRACT #07619-MSL. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 177 PARKS & RECREATION; FUND: TRUST; ACCOUNT CATEGORY: 71 EQUIPMENT

ON THE QUESTION

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

I am Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Donchess

Can you give us just a brief overview on this?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yes the current lighting that we have at the softball fields at Labine is extremely dated and aged. The brackets that are used to adjust the lighting are so age they can no longer be adjusted. This causes for some of the lights to shine in players faces and creates a hazardous environment. So this is, you know, this is a great project and I hope to see it move forward.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I think that this is something that we do have to fund and as Alderman Comeau had sent us in his very detailed - just one of the pictures that kind of struck me was the variety of lighting from when it started in 1977 where it was very bright and so on to today where it's not very bright and there's a potential of - I think he mentioned in another

meeting - a potential of this falling in and hurting somebody. So we do have to do something and I trust Mr. Conant and that this is the appropriate thing to do. So I think we should give a positive motion to this. Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. My question is, is this currently would you say and same thing like at St. Andrew's Park, right, is this our worst lighting right now for all our fields or are there any other fields that are experiencing this that we're going to have to look at in the future?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

I would say right now Labine is the worst. Yes there are other situations that we need to look into - f Mine Falls comes to mind, the lighting on Artillery Lane. This will be the first LED lighting that we have in any of our athletic fields in the city which, you know, I think is something we should ultimately try and transfer to. But yes, this is the worst and no this isn't the only spot that we should be looking at.

Alderman Thibeault

Follow up?

Mayor Donchess

Yes.

Alderman Thibeault

So I guess at that point then if it's a safety risk, then I would support it when it comes to the Board of Aldermen because I've used the ones that the other fields and they're not safety risks even though they may be starting to get old themselves. So yeah, I'll support it when it comes to the Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

Alderman Klee

Thank you again, Mr. Mayor and thank you for indulging me. Mr. Conant would it be an imposition or too difficult for you to give us a kind of a report to the Board of Aldermen as to the status of all the lighting within these fields because to Alderman Thibeault's comment about other fields, and I heard you say Artillery and my little spidey senses kind of went up because that's within my Ward. I'm going to be asking about it and so I would like to kind of know just also for future as to how we should go about working these. I'd like to see more LED lights going in and we could kind of create a calendar or schedule, I guess it would be the appropriate word, as to how we go about getting these done. You all do a phenomenal job. I'm not I'm not questioning that but just so that we as the Board of Aldermen know what's kind of coming down the pike. Would that be that much of difficulty?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

No, no, not at all and that's a great suggestion. I'll come up with some type of documentation and list them in priority of where they should be done and what can be put on the backburner, so to speak.

Alderman Klee

Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

You're welcome.

Mayor Donchess

That's great, thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'll have to go off of what my two colleagues said before. I agree. I think looking past just this project, which I support, but looking the whole city wide I think it would be good to get a schedule and maybe pick off a park every two years, every other year just make sure we're keeping our assets up to date. It's always good when we could switch over to LED as well. I look forward to seeing what the park looks like when it's complete and hopefully that's kind of a springboard for the rest of our parks.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

I hope so.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of Asphalt & Aggregates in the amount not to exceed \$144,500 funded from accounts 61507 Asphalt & 61535 Gravel/Loam

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF ASPHALT AND AGGREGATES FROM BROX INDUSTRIES OF HUDSON, NH, AND CONTINENTAL PAVING OF LONDONDERRY, NH, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$144,500. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: GENERAL; ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION: 61 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

ON THE QUESTIONJon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

I am here Mr. Mayor. Thank you. Good evening, everybody. So this is an annual expenditure. It comes out of our operating budget at the Street Department. Seeking to encumber the funding as a sole source. As you see reviewing the documents, the pricing but more importantly, their geographic location to our operation. So on a daily basis we run over the bridge to these facilities and we get our aggregates our asphalt to help us achieve our jobs. Whether it's a mill and fill program, or a small paving project, or a sewer repair, sewer dig this is where we get our materials and it's quicker and makes projects more efficient. I'm happy to answer any questions.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Primary and Secondary Digester Coating Change Order #1 in the amount not to exceed \$61,400 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Wastewater Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER 1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH JOHN W. EGAN COMPANY FOR THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIGESTER PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$61,400. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER; ACTIVITY: DIGESTER/GAS TANK COATING

ON THE QUESTIONDavid Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent. This is Change Order 1 to a coding project which is an active capital project at the wastewater facility. Three of the items on this were determined that needed attention. They're in the vicinity of our current project, which was determined could receive some cost savings. Basically due to the mobilization cost would be eliminated since the company is already on site. This included coding of a ladder that goes to the top of our dechlorination building. It's a metal ladder that's completely rusted out. Also, we have a pipe in our wet weather facility that's right next to the digester complex that needs a coat of paint and the roof top. It's a concrete roof top to our combined sewer overflow containment area. This is located right next to the digestive complex.

Three of the items on this were located during the sandblasting and prep work of the primary and secondary digester. This included the - it's a metal apron that goes around the bottom of our digester or our sludge egg that needed a coat of paint. There was some work done to the concrete bases of both our primary and secondary digester. After the work done, it was determined that a sealing coating would be necessary to seal up all the concrete. Also the chain link fence -

it's a safety fence that wraps around the top of our secondary digesters and our employees travel up there daily to check out the equipment that's on top. That would have to be replaced. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Alderman Klee

Thank you again, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Boucher I saw that the contract says that the final completion would be about the end of January 2023. Are we still on track for that date and with the increased cost of things are we looking at this going up any further than what it is now or do we think we'll stay on costs?

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

We'll stay on cost. The original project estimate was \$750,000. If this is approved, we're still looking at \$210,000 remaining. So we're within that original estimate. Right now we're on schedule. We're expecting - it's possible that we could be done by September is the goal. They want to finish before temperatures get colder. It's hard to believe it might be colder, but we're still on track on schedule.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Just a quick question through you. So going off of what you just said, the original project was budgeted for \$750,000. Is that correct?

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

That's correct.

Alderman Gouveia

Now what brought it down so much? That seems like a big leap from what was budgeted to what we're paying to execute the project.

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

Right. That's an estimated cost. There was three large tanks that had to be done. The first tank came under budget and the second two tanks came under budget or estimate. But that's what led to the lower cost, which we're thankful for.

Alderman Gouveia

Of course, absolutely.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Fall Protection Unit in the amount not to exceed \$46,202 funded from Wastewater Capital Project: Davit Arm Replacement; Wastewater Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE GORBEL ROAD RANGER FALL PROTECTION UNIT FROM MASS CRANE AND HOIST SERVICES, INC., OF TYNGSBORO, MA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$46,202. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER; ACTIVITY: DAVIT ARM REPLACEMENT

ON THE QUESTION

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

Thank you. Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent. This was another capital improvement project that we had at the wastewater facility. We have several tanks throughout the facility. A lot of them are greater than 20 feet deep. We have to access these tanks for maintenance, and do repair, and general upkeep. There currently is a lack of safety going down

these tanks. We can do the best we can but we brought in our safety equipment inspection company. They test all our harnesses, our hoist to come up with the best way to enter all these tanks. We came up with the - it's a mobile anchor. Basically it's a davit arm. Its trailer mounted. It can be extended over 90% of the areas in our facility and can also be used out on the street. Basically, you hook up a person to the harness to this equipment so they can safely go down into these tanks.

The other (inaudible) tank that we're looking at, it's probably going to involve attaching davit arm bases to concrete. We couldn't do that everywhere at the facility because some of these tanks are aged. We'd have to have structural studies done and load testing done on all these areas we attach to the concrete. Fortunately, the last 10% is newer structures like our wet weather facility so the concrete is in good shape. We put together some (inaudible) for this equipment. We tried to find different companies that could meet the specs. Unfortunately, only two could meet the specs so we requested quotes and Mass Crane was the low bidder on this. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Sewer Replacement Project Change Order #1 in the amount not to exceed \$500,000 funded from Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO THE 2022 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT WITH SUR CONSTRUCTION WEST, INC., OF WINCHESTER, NH, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000.00. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: BONDED; ACTIVITY: SEWER REPAIR

ON THE QUESTION

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So we run two types of sewer projects. One is lining and the others is a dig contract. This is a change order to the dig contract. We recently approved a new CTV contract so we're going to be doing a lot of video inspection. We would expect to find problems as part of that. So this change order is to bump up our dig contract so that we're able to quickly respond and make repairs when we find issues.

Alderman Klee

Thank you again, Mr. Mayor. I'm going to ask you Mr. Hudson the same question that I asked Mr. Boucher. According to this, the contract or the final payment would be December of 2022. Are we on schedule for that? I would assume this is something you can't do in the cold weather either so are you looking for this to be also done September/October?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Yes. I mean we've been working all summer on the various improvements that we had identified previously. They're getting close to wrapping up that work that we had bid out and planned for. This is really to address unforeseen issues that come up. This contract does go till December. Should we not fully exhaust the contract and there's work to do in the spring, I think we can carry it over just through a contract time extension. The key here is to be able to respond to issues that we find and to do that, we need to increase this budget.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Canal Street Bridge Repairs, Change Order #2 in the amount not to exceed \$34,000 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Capital & Grant Funds

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR THE CANAL STREET BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION REPAIRS CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$34,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENTS: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING & 161 STREET; FUNDS: CAPITAL & GRANT; ACTIVITIES: INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS & HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT

ON THE QUESTIONDan Hudson, City Engineer

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Dan Hudson, City Engineer. So this is a project we have currently underway. Its rehabilitation that will connect the (inaudible) bridge. The Canal Street Bridge is on the DOT red list due to some structural issues underneath. There's concrete that has deteriorated and is falling so it needs to be basically chipped out and replaced. When we originally bid this project, the water was up and you couldn't see all of the area. Also since we bid this out, there's been additional deterioration. This contract (inaudible) is to increase the quantity of the concrete repair work that's necessary to repair this to the point that we believe it will be able to be brought off the DOT red list.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: ESRI GIS Enterprise Agreement Renewal in the amount not to exceed \$115,308 funded from 54407 Software Maintenance/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE GIS ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND ANNUAL AGREEMENT FOR THREE YEARS BETWEEN THE CITY OF NASHUA, PENNICHUCK CORPORATION, AND ESRI IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$115,308. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT: 106 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES; FUND: 54407 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTIONKim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Good evening. Kim Kleiner, Director of Administrative Services. So we addressed this a little bit during our budget when we came to you for the GIS Department. The City of Nashua and Pennichuck Corp. have had an agreement for over the last two renewals each three years each to split the cost of our GIS as a renewal. The contract has generally caused for the initial license to be \$50,000 a year and we've split that.

This year we were alerted sometime back in May that that cost would be increasing and it increased to a little over \$64,000. Additionally, the city required a couple of new licenses for ongoing work that we were doing with CDM Smith for our new viewer and also for work that we are doing with the Assessing Department. So there were two new licenses that totaled \$6,000 a year. Pennichuck required another license for some work that they are doing, which came to \$5,500. So we entered into conversations with Pennichuck how best to address this. Decided the fee structure that we would work out so that they are absorbing some of the increase and the city is absorbing some of the increase. So for the city, it'll be \$38,436 a year for three years.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor and thank you Director Kleiner. You know I sent you messages over the weekend about the GIS system. So you know that I use it pretty regularly. We just did an upgrade to the GIS. Does this maintenance also include that newest upgrade or upgrade separate from our maintenance contracts?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Great question. So these licenses do include the upgrades. These are upgraded licenses. If you've been on GIS, and I know Alderwoman Klee has, in the past couple of days we've been struggling and the site has been down. That's because they're working with ESRI to update these new licenses and apply that. One of the best benefits of ESRI is we really have between our IT Department and also Pennichuck Corporation's IT Department, we really have 24/7 access to customer support, maintenance support, and they've been working with us to get the new licenses installed on our servers. Of course, we just upgraded our server for GIS. Pam Andruskevich our GIS Technician has done wonderful work. We're also right now programming the revaluation site. So there's a lot going on. I spoke with Mr. Misevitch this afternoon and he thought he'd have it all up and running by morning.

Alderman Klee

Thank you so much and I'll try not to bother you as much.

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

No worries.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Question through you to Director Kleiner. So just to be clear with my numbers, it's going from roughly \$25,000 a year to \$38,436. Is that correct?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

That is correct.

Alderman Gouveia

Okay. And that's increasing because of the – what you stated before. So the licenses as well as just the fee of the program in total, correct?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Correct.

Alderman Gouveia

Okay. Just another follow up if that's okay? Thank you. I see that this is a sole source but did we look at any other types of programs in replacement of this or are we happy with what we have and want to stick with it?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Great question again because ESRI really is the leading provider and especially when you look at municipalities. They really have the field and the expertise. Pamela Andruskevich just went out to their annual conference and across the country, over 14,000 people go to these conferences not only are they leaders in the software and the design that they have, but also in the education that they provide. There really is no one like them in the market.

Alderman Gouveia

Okay, perfect. Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Clear Sky Benefit Interface in the amount not to exceed \$21,600 funded from 71228 Computer Software/Benefits Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE A REQUEST FOR AN ADDITION TO A CONTRACT WITH CLEAR SKY TO CREATE PROCESSES FOR OUTBOUND AND INBOUND UPDATES TO THE ALIGHT SYSTEM AND/OR LAWSON SYSTEM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$21,600. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT: 106 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES; FUND: 71228 COMPUTER SOFTWARE/BENEFITS FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

So this contract, it's an interesting situation and I tried to be as clear as I could in my memo. So we, as everyone knows, entered into a contract with Alight to upgrade to an enrollment in our benefits that is online. That project has been very successful. In fact, we just did open enrollment this year completely online. Our systems within the city, mostly our Lawson system, required a lot of additional programming to allow Alight's programs to interface correctly.

So we entered into a contract before open enrollment. We knew that these changes had to be made to our Lawson system and we entered into a contract in March for \$24,850. We did not bring that forward. It was under the finance threshold. The work needed to be done and we are right up against the April enrollment. That was very successful and everything went fine.

Now we're moving into the second process for this where we're looking at new hires, terminations, and changes throughout the year. What we're finding is the Lawson system and the Alight system are going to require additional programming to be able to speak to each other. Most of that is due to how complicated the city is. So we have 17 different groups. We have people in different pay structures and it's a very fast moving situation. So we've been talking with Clear Sky who has really been the city's consultant when it comes to any type of programming changes in Lawson, for benefits, HR, and sometimes we've used some for our GIS as well. They're going to do some additional programming to make those new hires, and terminations, and our ongoing processes work. They're also going to assist us with some outbound files to our carriers that require that. Unfortunately, it's going to cost another \$21,600.

The only caution I want to say is that in the contract it talks to travel, and expenses, and us supplying. That does not happen. So these consultants work totally remotely from Michigan where they are. So there will be no additional costs above the \$21,600 but together with the \$24,850 that we already spent, we wanted to come forward to Finance.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

Alderman Klee

Thank you again, Mr. Mayor and thank you Director Kleiner. I understand this and thank you for having as much of this online as possible. It must save a little bit of time in your HR Department. But the question that I have is does this interface with that? I know I'm calling it wrong, that healthcare shopper that we had is this part of that or are they really separate?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

So Smart Shopper. What we are working with Alight on now, you know, we were under such a time crunch to get open enrollment through we really focused just on that. Now we're working with Alight for all those additional programs. Smart Shopper being one, modeling of people's benefits so they can go out and they can decide which plan is best for them and their family's unique health situations. So, you know, and everything ACA reporting. I mean Alight offers a lot of tools and now we're working on the programming of all those additional tools. So smart shopper will be one that will be available. It's further down the line on the list. First, we need to deal with the new hires and terminations.

Alderman Klee

Just a quick follow up comment. So as you just said, that's something that comes down the line as well as all those other tools. You'll have to come in obviously for those particular items even if they're under the \$25,000, correct, because the in total we're going to get higher than 25,000?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

I don't expect that. So the programming of those additional tools is already in the contract with Alight. These charges are really for the programming between Alight and Lawson. Lawson really has - won't be affected by any of those additional tools.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

You're welcome.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Question through to Direct Kleiner. Do you see any more future payments going through or any more money that will have to be spent on this project? So we're like we're adding another \$21,600 to it. Do you foresee any more, more ask in the future for more money on this?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Great question. So I think when we looked at Alight, and we have gone out to bid for that through WBS our consultant, we were really looking at what was most cost efficient to the city. We didn't at that time, understand that there would be programming within our own existing city systems and that was unfortunate. So, you know, it added roughly another \$49,000 to a project that was quite unexpected. Having said that, the city would have had this problem no matter who we chose as a contractor. In the long run, I think it's the cost savings that you're going to have from not having employees enter 2,800 health applications and review them. Not only employees here but at the schools, at the Police Department. We saw it this year the cost savings that you can get from really having online benefit enrollment.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Question to Director Kleiner through you. You kind of answered what I was going to ask there. So I just want to clarify. So the addition of having to put adds, terms, changes, new hires, and all that stuff into our system was nothing that the vendor said originally. We can do that no problem. It was the problem with the city stuff that caused this to have the over - the extra money that we have to pay, right? Is that what I'm getting from what you're saying?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Yes, that's correct. So it's our city Lawson system that required the changes which would have been no matter what vendor you used for any online benefits. Lawson is sometimes a little difficult to use and we have programmed it in a certain way that works very well for the city but it doesn't always allow easy interface.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

Mayor Donchess

This Resolution, we still are going to brief the Board of Public Works on this in a few days. So I suggest we not take this off the table yet. Unless there's an objection, we'll go on to new business resolutions.

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

From: Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director

Re: Communication – Approval & Place on File a Contract Amendment for Professional Engineering Services related to the Nashua Downtown Riverfront Implementation Project VHB, Inc. for Water Street Design Services

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 15, 2022 TO JULY 28, 2022

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - NoneREMARKS BY THE ALDERMENAlderman Moran

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I would just like to acknowledge that right before this meeting I got to be on Changing the Stigma on Nashua Public Television, which is with the guys over at WSMN are changing up the way we do public television in the city and it was great. It was an experience. We talked about – I didn't go on really as an Alderman. I went on as a health professional and talked about what's happening in the city, what's happening in the State, and it's hosted by James Klein who he and I worked together at the mobile crisis and he's also pursuing a Master's Degree in social work. Something that I already have and he's just a great asset to the community. He already had a show on the radio station. He's a former Marine – a combat Marine. He also was in President Clinton's guard down at Camp David. So he knows PTSD from his work experience. We got to talk about that.

George Russell assures me that our entire segment will be on Monday at 10 a.m. and he said I could announce that here tonight. He assured me that it would be on local access on Monday at 10.

Mayor Donchess

Sounds good.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I just wanted to announce something that some people know and some people might not know. It's something I've talked to my constituents about. Even though I can't hit all 10,000 of them, I don't have all their e-mails. One of the things that's happening a lot of you guys know, August 1st the rates for electricity from Eversource are going from 12 cents a kilowatt hour to 22 cents a kilowatt hour. That is a huge increase. Its 112% I believe if I got that right. One thing people can do other than not use your air conditioners or your pools even though it's going to be 100 degrees tomorrow is you can change you supplier. A lot of suppliers right now are cheaper than the Eversource rate. You still have to get your – everything comes through Eversource still but you can change suppliers.

A couple things you should know is that some of these – like Direct Energy is one for example. They sometimes have contracts that you have to sign or you have to fill out for three years, two years, and some have cancellation fees. So say Eversource's rate goes down, you wouldn't be able to break that without cancellation fee. Well some of them now don't have them. To tell your constituents to try to look in shopping as a supplier, you can look for ones that don't have cancellation fees or maybe ones that don't have contracts, unless it's got a really good rate. I'm seeing a lot out there of 15 cents, 16 cents. It's still cheaper and once we get through this 100 degree day, it can go down.

Eversource is no making profit off these changes. It's a pass through just like a lot of the utilities and different types of things like gas. It's due to the supply and demand and the global supply of natural gas. That's causing a lot of problems. The next rate change will be in January. So it could go down. I personally think it's not going to go down to 12 cents. That's why I'm saying if you're shopping, try to get a contract you can break because it may go down in January. Then you can go back to Eversource. Eversource is saying this as well. This is not something I'm speaking out of turn on. I work for Eversource. That's just a – I put that out there. We're telling our customers to shop. Thank you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Mr. Mayor. Thank you Alderman for bringing that point up. I appreciate you sharing it specifically that it's not Eversource making a profit on it. We have Ms. Doria Brown who has been working with the group – if I have it correct Mr. Mayor – it's like a community co-op energy. I know that they're working on it. It hasn't quite come to fruition but I've asked Ms. Brown to speak to my Ward in September. Once that's all settled, would it be possible to speak to the Board of Aldermen and explain all of that.

Mayor Donchess

Oh, yes. They're still...

Alderman Klee

They're still working all their kinks out, I know. They're hoping that in another month or two. Because we're going through

this, maybe if she could kind of speak to what we hope will be. It might be helpful to the community out there. I know she's agreed to speak to my Ward in September. I just haven't firmed down the date yet. I think it might be good just so that people know that some of the alternatives as you had spoken to but there's a co-op that they're trying to put together. I don't think it would stop that though because that's not a profit thing. That's the pass through.

Alderman Thibeault

No, it's going to hurt people. I think it's going to hurt people.

Alderman Klee

Yeah, it is. We're all going to feel it.

Alderman Thibeault

In the worst time. August is the hottest month.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

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

Alderman Alex Comeau
Committee Clerk