

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Mayor Jim Donchess, Chairman, presided.

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

Members not in Attendance:

Also in Attendance: Shawn Smith, Nashua School District Plant Operations Director
James Kirk, Deputy Chief Nashua Fire & Rescue
Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director
Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Jason Toohey, I/T Manager, Project Development
Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks & Rec
Dan Hudson, City Engineer
Dave Boucher, Superintendent Wastewater
Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer
Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Streets
Michael Rush, Fleet Manager, Street Department

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Re: Purchase of a lull in the amount of \$31,995.00 funded from 81500 Vehicles/CERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A "LULL" ALSO KNOWN AS A "BOOM LIFT" FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM CUES EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,995. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 191 SCHOOL; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

I think Mr. Smith is here, correct? Yes, I know he's here but I think he's here on this item.

Shawn Smith, Nashua School District Plant Operations Director

Good evening. I'm Shawn Smith the Plant Operations Director for the School District. Actually everything you just said describing in your motion kind of describes what I want to do. It's a lull. You may also know it as a boom lift. It's something that you have to tow behind a vehicle. It reaches up to 40 feet, enables us to get to trees, roofs, windows, anything, parking lot lights are the big, big thing that we use it for.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Questions/comments?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of Personal Protective Clothing/Equipment in the amount of \$56,463.13 funded from 61110 Protective Clothing/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SEVENTEEN (17) SETS OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) FROM BERGERON PROTECTIVE CLOTHING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$56,463.13. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 152 FIRE RESCUE; FUND: 61110 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

I think Deputy Kirk is here.

James Kirk, Deputy Chief Nashua Fire & Rescue

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Deputy Chief James Kirk. Like he said, basically everything's contained in the motion. We're looking to do 17 sets of PPE which is essentially the firefighting ensemble that you see the firefighters wearing for thermal protection at fires that we respond to.

Mayor Donchess

Any questions or comments? Alderman Gouveia.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. More of just a comment here but looking over at what's being purchased and it's pretty clear that all of these uniforms and equipment we're buying contains PFAS materials. That doesn't go unseen by me and I know a lot. I deal a lot up in Concord with PFAS and firefighters and for those who don't know, it is material and chemicals that is known to give people cancer. It's pretty clear and common. It's well documented and there's a push to move to create gear that doesn't contain PFAS. I hope that comes soon because it's really bad in the fire services industry what PFAS is doing, especially to retirees down the road when they get out and they end up unfortunately getting cancer. It's something I see on a pretty normal basis and I know the legislature up in Concord has been pretty good at helping combat it but hopefully one day we'll make it so we're not buying any more uniforms that contain PFAS materials. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

But as I understand it at this point, no alternatives if you want protective clothing.

James Kirk, Deputy Chief Nashua Fire & Rescue

That's correct. This specific ensemble has three layers. The two inner layers still contain PFAS. The outer layer fortunately through development has no longer containing PFAS but there is still PFAS in the ensemble as a whole.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Any other questions or comments?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Software maintenance for Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$99,250.71 funded from 54407 Software Maintenance/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL RENEWAL REQUIRED FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE FROM TYLER TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,250.71. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 120 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; FUND: 54407 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Is there anyone here on this? Oh yes, okay great.

Jason Toohey, IT Manager Project Development

This is just the yearly renewal for our Munis software which does our general billing, property tax billing, and wastewater billing.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of playground equipment in the amount of \$139,723.20 funded from 71625 Citywide Playground Improvements/Capital

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PLAYGROUND STRUCTURE AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR FIELD GROVES PARK FROM ULTIPLAY PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$139,723.20. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 177 PARKS AND RECREATION; FUND: 71625 CITYWIDE PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS/CAPITAL

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Conant.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks & Recreation

Good evening everyone. Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. This is for a new playground structure down at Field Groves. The current playground structure is about 20 years old, is not compromised with too much, pretty small footprint. I think this will be a great enhancement of the park. It's got an inclusive spinner similar to the one over at Legacy Playground over next to Fairgrounds. It's got some swing sets, some climbing features. I think a lot of different features that will engage a wide age. So I'd be happy to answer any questions on this.

Mayor Donchess

Alderman Comeau.

Alderman Comeau

Yes thank you, Mr. Mayor. So I'm familiar with Fields Grove Park pretty well. When I moved up to Nashua when my kids were very small, my daughter was three or four the first time we went over there. I'm pretty sure that the equipment is the same as it was back then. She's now a nurse in Southern New Hampshire so that tells you how long that equipment has been there. I'm glad to see this coming through because some of that equipment has been broken for a while. I know about a year or so ago there were questions about one of the pieces of equipment. They couldn't get parts for it anymore because they don't make the equipment anymore. So I'm definitely glad to see this upgrade coming in. I know that park gets a lot of use from the people in the neighborhood. So very happy to see it finally getting fixed up. Thank you.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks & Recreation

Thank you very much for your support.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of three (3) Wright Stand Mowers in the amount of \$29,400 funded from 71623 Park Equipment/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2023 WRIGHT STANDER MOWERS, MODEL WSTX48, FROM TURNPIKE POWER EQUIPMENT, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,400 (\$9,800 EACH) FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 177 PARKS AND RECREATION; FUND: 71623 PARK EQUIPMENT/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Conant.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks & Recreation

Currently right now the Department has six of these mowers. Four of them are 2014s, two are 2020s. During the growing season, we sent out three crews two mowers apiece, six guys. These mowers are used heavily in some of our smaller parks and they're also used in our bigger parks to do the outskirts and then the bigger mower comes in and finishes it up. It's the same type of mower that we have. I'm happy about that because the staff is familiar with how it operates. I'd be happy to answer any questions that there may be.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Design services for bridge rehabilitation in the amount of \$122,845 funded from 53107 Architect & Engineering Services/Capital

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE WATER STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION DESIGN SERVICES WITH HOYLE, TANNER & ASSOCIATES, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$122,845. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUND: 53107 ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES/CAPITAL

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Hudson.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Thank you. Good evening. Dan Hudson, City Engineer. We engaged Hoyle Tanner under a different agreement to go out and look at the Water Street Bridge and the Main Street Bridge to assess their conditions since there's a lot of work happening down the riverfront area in the coming years. Their assessment is that Water Street Bridge needs some work. This contract would enable them to take that to the stage that's ready for bidding. Ideally, we would do that renovation work concurrently with the other work plan in the area which is planned for next year. So we really need to get them under contract, how to fully assess the bridge, and prepare the plans, documents, and whatnot to get to the point that we can advertise the project for rehabilitation. The bridge was rehabilitated once before. I think it was back in the 80s. So that was, you know, targeted about a 20 to 30 year design life and we're beyond that so it's due for rehabilitation. I'd be happy to address any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? Questions?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: 2023 Sewer Replacement Contract 2 in the amount of \$483,375 funded from 54210
Construction Services/Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE 2023 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT CONTRACT 2 TO N. GRANESE AND SONS, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$483,375. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/BOND

ON THE QUESTION

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

So we have a couple of projects here that we bid out for some sewer and drainage work. This one is in the Foster Court/Granite Street area. There's a bad sewer pipe over there that needs to be replaced. This is actually a dig and replace project. We bid the project out. We received two bids and N. Granese and Sons was the qualified low bidder. So we're proposing to award this contract to them.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? Alderman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Thank you so much and thank you for taking care of this. It's been kind of we know there's an issue in that area but I do have a quick question. There's a significant difference between the two bidders. Anytime I see this, I always wonder why. Is it per item or did one just want to do a little bit more or do we know?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

So it's very interesting climate in terms of bidding projects. We're thankful to receive two bids on this. Some projects we haven't even received two bids, some we received none or one but it really depends on the individual contractor what they have currently on their list of things to do. This is work that we're planning to do this year. So some contractor may have availability to do and others may not. So they may bid a higher price or may not bid at all. So looking through the items, it was kind of across the board. Defelice's costs are a little bit higher than N. Granese and I can't speak fully to why exactly that is but N. Granese is responsive and appears to be suitable for moving forward with.

Alderman Klee

Just one more question. Thank you. Is this a continuation of the project that we're doing at Orange Street because it goes right into that area, right?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Yeah it's kind of work in the same area but under different projects. So there's been a lot of gas work that occurred out there and some other work as well. As part of some of the issues and looking at that whole area realized this was a piece that needs to be done as well. So we've kind of been working in the area. We want to kind of finish that and do this work so that we're done working in that vicinity for a while.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

You're welcome.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: 2023 Sewer Replacement Contract 3 in the amount of \$523,010 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE 2023 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT CONTRACT 3 TO RWC ENTERPRISES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$523,010. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/BOND

ON THE QUESTION

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Again, Dan Hudson, City Engineer. So this is drainage work but same sort of a story. We have some issues that we're trying to address by building some pipe. Currently, we have some drainage that runs through private property. It's a location that's hard to get to. There's a broken pipe and we really can't get out there to do work because the whole area is built up around with residential. So we're seeking to bring those pipes into the road and route around that area that runs through private property. We bid this out, received two bids. In this case, N. Granese was higher than the other bidder who was RWC of Nashua and so we're proposing to award RWC.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Change Order #2 for the 2022 CIPP Lining Program in the amount of \$945,425 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Wastewater

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER 2 TO THE 2022 CIPP LINING PROGRAM WITH KENYON PIPELINE INSPECTION, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$945,425. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/WASTEWATER

ON THE QUESTION

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

So this is a proposed change order as noted. We had bid out CCTV and lining previously and Kenyon won that contract. They had done a bunch of work. It exhausted the budget that we had allocated today for that work. We're looking to extend that work. We're doing a lot of CCTV to stay ahead of the paving program and other work occurring around the City as well as working through the pipes that are older and we expect would have problems. As we find stuff, we need to be able to line it again to catch it before we have to dig it up. As I have explained before, that's much more expensive and disruptive to the community. So currently, we're seeking to extend Kenyon's contract. They've been good to work with and this will enable us to keep that CCTV aligning work going and so that's why we're bringing this forward for consideration.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Engineering Services for the landfill in the amount of \$99,800 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES AT THE LANDFILL FOR THE PHASE IV EXPANSION PHASE 1 ENGINEERING WITH SANBORN HEAD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,800. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/BOND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Is Mr. Santos here on this?

Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer

Yes, I am. Can you hear me?

Mayor Donchess

Yes, we can.

Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer

Great. Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer for the Solid Waste Department. This contract with Sanborn Head is to fulfill some conditions of our Phase IV expansion permit for the 30 - 35 years of airspace. We need to conduct the study to the depth of bedrock in between the two - the old landfill and the existing landfill the current haul road there where the bottom of the new Phase IV will start. We have to confirm depth of bedrock there to make sure we have the separation. When we construct Phase IV, we're going to remove six or seven monitoring wells that exist along that haul road and we need to install four replacement wells for those before we begin and those will be outside of Phase IV to replace those wells in the haul road. I'd be happy to answer any other questions.

Mayor Donchess

Questions?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Construction of the Setback Barrier Wall in the amount of \$612,934 funded from 54210 Construction Services/Bond

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE A CONTRACT TO CONTINUE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RESIDENTIAL SETBACK BARRIER WALL IN THE PHASE I & II LANDFILL WITH CHARTER CONTRACTING COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$612,934. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/BOND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Santos?

Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer

Yes. Darrin Santos, Solid Waste Department. The setback barrier wall is an ongoing project. It exists in the Phase 1 and Phase II landfill at the 500-foot setback from the residences. We have to construct a vertical wall there to separate trash. Keep it on the inside of that setback. This we need to do an expansion quickly here to be able to capture the remaining airspace in Phases II and III. We can't fill too much higher until we get to the wall to come up with it. So this will get us going through the next year or two for the airspace. We have about five to seven years in Phase II and III left.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Thank you. Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Contract for Supplemental Site Investigation in the amount of \$52,500 funded from 55699 Other Contracted Services/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE A CONTRACT TO DO A SUPPLEMENTAL SITE INVESTIGATION OF THE FOUR HILLS LANDFILL WITH SANBORN HEAD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,500. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: 55699 OTHER CONTRACT SERVICES/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Santos.

Darrin Santos, Environmental Engineer

Yes. Darrin Santos, Solid Waste Department. This is also a condition of the Phase IV permit to renew our groundwater management permit and the supplemental site investigation is to collect data to support that the existing groundwater management zone which goes from the landfill property to the river and also includes the nearby Gilson Road site. We have to confirm at least that our portion of the landfill Phase IV isn't going to need to expand that zone at all. So that works with Sanborn Head and I should mention there is a slight price reduction by combining the first item I talked about the \$99,800 and this because there's going to be one well installed as a part of this with one mobilization.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Thank you. Anybody have questions?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: 2024 Freightliner Cab and Chassis with Roll off Package in the amount of \$216,394 funded from 81500 Vehicles/WERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2024 FREIGHTLINER CAB AND CHASSIS WITH ROLL OFF BODY FROM ADVANTAGE TRUCK GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$216,394. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/WERF

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Rush you're here on this right?

Michael Rush, Fleet Manager, Street Department

Yes Sir. Good evening Michael Rush, Fleet Manager. This roll off is going to replace our 2011. It is a like for like purchase. It is a CNG vehicle and it's used daily to remove the cans, sludge cans, and deliver those to the landfill as well as doubling as a backup to move landfill containers as needed up into the cell.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Anybody have anything?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

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

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF ASPHALT AND AGGREGATES FROM BROX INDUSTRIES AND CONTINENTAL PAVING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$144,500. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: 61507 ASPHALT & 61535 GRAVEL/LOAM

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

I believe this is Mr. Ibarra.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department. This is an annual expenditure for the materials we use on a daily basis in our operations at the Street Department. It allows us to encumber the funding to do business with Brox and Continental and we use the asphalt for patching our trenches, for our mill and fill program, and to supply our hotbox when we're out. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of an asphalt repair hot box trailer in the amount of \$49,505 funded from 81500 Vehicles/CERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ASPHALT REPAIR HOT BOX TRAILER FROM VIKING CHIVES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,505. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department. So this purchase will be exchanging an 81 or replacing a 1981 hot box. So it's well exceeded its life. We use this daily to patch potholes and I'll answer any questions you may have over this.

Mayor Donchess

Any hot box questions? Yes, Alderman Comeau.

Alderman Comeau

Well not a question about the hot box but as something else that came into service in 1981. I would hope that that's not an indication of outliving something's usefulness. Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Change Order #1 for Pavement Markings in the amount not to exceed \$162,000 funded from 54275 Signing & Striping Services/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER #1 TO ADD ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES AND EXTEND THE CONTRACT COMPLETION DATE WITH MARKINGS, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$162,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: 54275 SIGNING AND STRIPING SERVICES/GENERAL FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department

John Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department. So the existing striping contractor that we've been using for the last few years was unable to hold their pricing so we went out to bid this spring. Markings, Inc. was the low bidder. We brought a motion earlier in June before the end of the Fiscal Year to encumber \$162,000 out of our operating budget as we awarded the contract to that company. Now I'm seeking to encumber Fiscal '24 \$162,000 and apply that towards that contract so we can strike the City moving forward. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have with that.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of three (3) Freightliner Cab and Chassis with Plow Package in the amount of \$812,799 funded from 81500 Vehicles/CERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2024 FREIGHTLINER CAB AND CHASSIS WITH BODY AND SNOW FIGHTER PACKAGE FROM VIKING CHIVES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$812,799 (\$270,933/EACH). FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department

John Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department. So these are three scheduled CERF replacements for existing units that will be kept and run until it's no longer feasible to keep. There'll be set up for plowing with spreaders, liquid pretreatment, and used in our daily operations as well for a construction project. So we do citywide and I'm happy to answer any questions you have there.

Mayor Donchess

I don't see any.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Purchase of two (2) 2024 Freightliner Cab and Chassis with Plow Package in the amount of \$591,230 funded from 81500 Vehicles/CERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) FREIGHTLINER CAB AND CHASSIS WITH BODY AND PLOW PACKAGES FROM VIKING CHIVES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$591,230 (\$295,615/EACH). FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent, Street Department

John Ibarra again, Superintendent Street Department. So similar purchase though these are 10-wheeler cabin chassis so they also will be set up for plowing operations and our construction operations. We use the 10 wheelers further out on the bigger runs like DW, Broad Street, and Amherst Street so they don't have to come back to the barn as often to reload. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Design Services Amendment #2 in the amount of \$34,871 funded from 53107 Architect & Engineering Services/Riverfront TIF Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE DESIGN SERVICES AMENDMENT #2 FOR THE COTTON MILL TRANSFER BRIDGE ADA PROJECT WITH VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN (VHB) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,871. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 183 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; FUND: 53107 ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES/RIVERFRONT TIF FUND

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Hudson.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Dan Hudson, City Engineer. So these next three items are inter-related. So I'll speak in general a little bit about them and we can take them up one at a time. We bid out the Cotton Mill Bridge, ADA ramp project, which is to add an ADA ramp on the north side of the river. That side of that bridge is not ADA compliant currently. So this will make it compliant. There's a ramp already on the south side. We have some of the costs for the project is funded through TIF and some is funded from the DOT through some congressional directed funding we received so it's a mix of funding. We're helping managing the project because of the DOT funding side.

The first item here for you is VHB's contract. VHB was the designer of the bridge. NH DOT's process doesn't allow you to use the same designer for construction phase. You have to use a different engineer. So the first item here is VHB. They designed it. We need to retain them in a fairly small role in construction so they can review shop drawings, submittals, address questions, be able to speak to any change orders that are proposed, and that sort of thing as the designer of record for the ramp. I'd be happy to address any questions about that.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Construction Engineer Phase Services in the amount of \$253,991 funded from 53107 Architect & Engineering Services/Riverfront TIF Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER PHASE SERVICES FOR AN ADA COMPLIANT ACCESS TO THE NORTH END OF THE EXISTING TRUSS BRIDGE THAT SPANS THE NASHUA RIVER IN THE DOWNTOWN WITH HOYLE TANNER & ASSOCIATES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$253,991. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 183 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; FUND: 53107 ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES/RIVERFRONT TIF FUND

ON THE QUESTIONDan Hudson, City Engineer

So this is the second of the three. Hoyle Tanner is the engineering company that has been selected to do the contract administration for the construction phase. They'll provide in the field people to be there almost full-time during the construction overseeing the contractors work on City's behalf to make sure we get what we paid for and that sort of thing. This work is going to occur through the winter. Their fee assumes the worst-case scenario where they'll have to be there basically every day through the winter. In reality, I don't think that will happen. I think this will come in well under budget but conservative basis, we did we did set this contract up that way. I'd be happy to address any questions about their contract.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Construction Services in the amount of \$1,320,540 funded from 53107 Architect & Engineering Services/Riverfront TIF Fund and 54210/NHDOT-Cotton Mill Bridge

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES WITH E.D. SWETT, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,320,540. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 183 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; FUND: 53107 ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES/RIVERFRONT TIF FUND \$1,020,540 AND 53107 ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES/NHDOT-COTTON MILL BRIDGE \$300,000

ON THE QUESTIONDan Hudson, City Engineer

So this is the actual construction of that structure. We bid this out. We only received a single bid. It was from E.D. Swett. E.D. Swett is a reputable bridge contractor so they're qualified for this work. We did review the bid and found it balanced and all that sort of thing. DOT also reviewed it in approving us to award this contract. We have elected to proceed with

this bid subject to your approval so we can get this work completed. The Attorney General's Office is interested in us getting this ramp constructed. Given this a bidding environment, we didn't feel there was any guarantee if we rebid this that we get more bids or that the bid will be lower so we're inclined in proposing to proceed with this construction as noted.

Mayor Donchess

Alderman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor and thank you Mr. Hudson for bringing this to us. I know this has been an issue of concern for many of the residents that tend to use that bridge. We even had a gentleman I think who came in here and spoke about that. So I'm glad to see this is finally getting done. Currently, they have to enter into the Cotton Mill Building, isn't that not correct? To use that elevator to get up there to be able to get to the other side.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Yes that is correct and that's private property and not necessarily accessible at all times of day and that sort of thing. So this will provide ADA accessible access that is separate from the private property which is one of the major features of the project.

Alderman Klee

Which is why even though we only got the one bid, trying to go out and rebid and delay this just to me Cotton Mill has been very good to allow us to do that but I know people that have come off after hours and so on can't use that bridge so I appreciate this. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Mayor Jim Donchess

Re: Emergency PO Request – SHI international Corp.

WITHOUT OBJECTION, CHAIRMAN DONCHESS ACCEPTED THE COMMUNICATION AND PLACED IT ON FILE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORDS OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 11, 2023 TO AUGUST 31, 2023

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurie Ortolano

Laurie Ortolano, 41 Berkeley Street. I was over at the debate today and had an opportunity to listen to the candidates speak. There were some interesting comments that came up on the Performing Arts Center, and the cost of that, and the

commitment of that, and I wanted to clarify some of the information stated. The reason I'm addressing this is because that Center is done, it's our building, it's not our building we don't own it but we rent it, and it's here to stay, and we should all make the most of what we have. But I think there were mistakes made in that project and I want to make certain we never go back and do that again and I'm concerned that we will do that again if we don't acknowledge what we did.

I'm concerned with some of the downtown projects right now, particularly the Mohawk Tannery and the Riverwalk Project because of cost overruns. The uniqueness in the Mohawk Tannery of that project and the complexity of the Nashua public city/public money piece and with the Riverwalk Project just general cost overruns. It was stated today by a candidate that we had given a \$7.1 million loan, the City of Nashua to 201 Main Street financing to build that Art Center. Mr. Mayor you stated that there was no loan given. I'm here to tell you that there was a loan given and here's the loan agreement, here's the security pledge agreement dated December 17, 2020, and here's the promissory note for \$7.1 million given from the City of Nashua to 201 Main Street Financing Corp. with a 1% interest rate to be paid on an interest only basis which was \$71,089 per year for seven years and it has a maturity date of 2050 with interest and principle starting thereafter. You signed this loan. It's your name on it with Mr. Lannan. So to state that there was no loan given was absurd to me and the mystery of that loan is very concerning to some of us who've tried to follow what's going on because this loan was never put on the City books. It was never accounted for. We don't even know how a public accounting firm would that does an audit of the books would not recognize that a \$7.1 million loan wasn't recorded when interest payments were coming in to the City and those were on the books. So and the reason...

Alderman Comeau

30 seconds

Laurie Ortolano

The reason we're paying that rent for this art center is to cover the cost of these loans not just the City loan but Mascoma's \$9.55 million loan has an interest only payment of \$130,000 a year. Our rental money of \$500,000 a year up to \$670,000 a year for 25 years is picking up the cost of all the fees associated with that New Market Tax Credit and the loans. This was a very complex...

Alderman Comeau

Time.

Laurie Ortolano

...project that we should not have undertaken and I'm going to be in here talking about this a good bit more because I think there was mismanagement of public funds here. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

So what I explained, again, about all of these inaccuracies and false statements that are being made repeatedly what I disagreed with was the accusation that we spent \$7 million and loaned \$7 million more than we were authorized by the Board of Aldermen. Board of Aldermen authorized \$21 million. That's what we spent, period. That's it. No extra \$7 million, no extra \$9 million, no extra \$16 million. All of these, and I explained, that all of these expenditures checks get written by the Finance Department and that they would never sign a check for \$7 million, or \$9 million, or \$16 million more than authorized by the Board of Aldermen. That would never survive an audit. We would never have a AAA bond rating if they were doing things like that. So it is these accusations that have been made for a long time now are just totally inaccurate.

The other inaccurate observation that's been made many times is that somehow the City is paying \$500,000 annually. No, this is a breakeven transaction. There is a "so called" rent in the amount of approximately \$500,000 but there's a distribution back to the City in approximately the same amount. So this is a net zero situation which is what I said today, and what I've said many times, and I wish the people who keep making these statements would listen to the Finance Committee, to the CFO, and to common sense, and stop making these false accusations.

Laurie Ortolano

You don't allow us to meet with you.

Mayor Donchess

Remarks by Aldermen.

Laurie Ortolano

You don't allow us to have those comments. Your doors are locked so we can't speak to anyone. That's the problem with your administration. There's no transparency here. You want this communication to stop, open the doors at City Hall.

Mayor Donchess

I will make this factual statement that Mr. Cummings and some people from the Assessing Office are meeting with Ms. Colquhoun tomorrow. I believe it's tomorrow to talk over whatever she wants to talk over. So this idea that we never meet with anyone is, again, another inaccurate statement.

Anyway, so Remarks By Aldermen? Alderwoman Klee.

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderwoman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'd like to also address I know she stormed out before she could hear any of the comments but I would like to reiterate what you said about that \$7.1 million loan. That was all part of the bond that was approved in 2020. This is not additional money. It's just the original money that was taken and like with any bond, we put that money aside and as we use it, we write out whatever the checks are, whatever the loans, or whatever the payments are to the different organizations. It is not new money and I want to reiterate exactly what you said.

As far as that \$500,000, this is gonna sound really not a great way of saying it but it's a paper chase. It's just we put it there, and it comes back here, and that's all it is, and it's needed to be done appropriately for this. This is not something new. Portsmouth has done it with their library and different other organizations do it as part of the New Market Tax Credit and so on. So I want the public to hear that.

I also want to be very adamant about something about transparency. I was at the same debate and I kept hearing about transparency, transparency, and the lack of transparency. So I'm going to reiterate. I was at every one of those Steering Committee meetings. They were the most dynamic and accessible meetings. We had people from the public who sat at the table and spoke in real-time. We didn't do public comment like this. They actually sat at the table. Mr. Teeboom was one of them, Mrs. McCarthy was one of those people who sat there and gave real-time comments, and real-time information, and asked real-time questions. They didn't wait till after the meeting. I don't mean to interrupt, they raised hands, everything was very polite. I think it was the most dynamic meeting. So for anybody to turn around and say there was no transparency and no information was shared is just doing it for a talking point in a soundbite. I'm very insulted by that because I was at all of those meetings and we worked very hard to make sure that the public had the meeting.

I will tell you firsthand when Mr. Teeboom did not like some of the things, he went and talked to the architects. They explained everything to him. He gave a lot of you know negative feedback at the beginning. By the end, he agreed to it. He actually told us I remember here at a board meeting telling us that we should increase it because after all, that's what happened at the Broad Street Parkway and people just forgot about it. So I don't think that was the right thing to do and nobody increased anything. We started with the \$15.5 because that's what we were told by Harvey when we got that first original one. By the time we went in and started making design and so on, we realized that we could not keep the building and we could not change it so we had to change it from there. I will leave it at that.

I want to thank Engineering and everything for that Cotton Mill ramp and so on. It's something that's much, much needed. I'm hoping that I'm not overstepping here but there was a meeting today with the City and CSX which is the rail. It used to be PanAm but they bought it about a year and a half ago. For all those people whose teeth rattle every time we go over the Main Street, I don't even want to call it the railroad tracks and watch the tracks wobble, wobble, and everything else like that, we have been promised they will be taken care of this month - the month of September. The exact words from the CSX person who runs the entire CSX for New England, he said we are going to get the Cadillac of railroad crossings. He said it's one of the longer ones and we will not have piecemeal like we have now. So anybody who goes over it watches one go up, and one do this, and positive is going to pop up. It's going to be one long rail and it's going to go into the sidewalks and so on. It will mean that that area of Main Street will have to be closed for one week. Hopefully that's it. Could possibly go a little bit more.

Director Sullivan brought up emergency and so on. Chief Buxton and the Police Department were there at that meeting and they said that it would be arranged as well as a message will go out to all of the ambulance and so on throughout the

entire community so it will not have a negative effect. They felt very confident and if CSX was going to think we were going to blink because they said they were going to close the road down for a week but even he said he went over and could not believe how bad it was. So we're trying to eke them out to maybe get over to Margarita's and BAE parking lot area too because it's just as bad but not quite as done that. So fingers crossed that things go as and they're going to try to piggyback it on to the Main Street paving so that's why they don't want to go into October. So thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Any other remarks by Aldermen? Alderman Moran.

Alderman Moran

Thank you. I just want to wish my daughter Autumn a happy third birthday. Thank you. A very positive just let the anger just flow out of the chamber. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Well I move that we all wish Autumn a happy third birthday. Autumn, Happy Birthday.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I just want to say that I appreciate your candor and I appreciate the fact that, you know, despite the fact that some folks are throwing misrepresentations out there, you always come back with the facts. I think the facts speak for themselves. I mean the city has a AAA bond rating. We are constantly on every list of one of the best run places, one of the best places to live. Those kinds of things don't happen when there is not a transparent government or when things are being shady behind the scenes. You don't get onto lists like that. You don't have AAA bond ratings when things like that happen. So when I hear the public, when I hear some members of the public state certain things, it's disappointing because to me it's almost like you're rooting against our City.

We have a very strong government here in Nashua. We, in my opinion, take our jobs very seriously. I don't think that there's an Alderman here that would ever stand for something being done in a fashion that didn't involve the public or somehow got around the Right-to-Know Law. I just don't think that there's an Alderman on this Board that would stand for that. So I question some of the things that that I hear. I think it's unfortunate when some members of the public have an outburst and can't respect the three-minute time rule that everybody else respects. I think that's a shame. But thankfully, I think most of our citizens in the City recognize the fact that we have a very good government here. We have very good Aldermen and like I said, I think all those awards and everything speak for themselves. So thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Timmons.

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Mayor. I agree with my colleagues. I think the more misinformation that certain members keep throwing at us every single board meeting or every single or whenever they get a chance to speak to the public this is a disservice to the City. Fortunately, people see right through it so I wouldn't think too much about it but you just keep stressing the facts and everybody know. No matter how many emails we get, how many nasty emails, they are all negative, and people see this and they know. So I wouldn't worry about it as long as you keep the facts the way they are which is facts and thank you. We do have a great City.

On another note, okay, we had the Nashua Multicultural Festival this Sunday. I'd really like to see everyone there. Everyone it's from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Please show up, my colleagues all have them show up.

Alderman Moran

Where?

Alderwoman Timmons

This is at the Public Library. It's going to be very nice. I'd like to see as many of you as possible. This is a City function.

Alderman Moran

I'm putting it on my calendar.

Alderwoman Timmons

Okay, good. It should have been in the calendar already. So this is the reminder to the public. Please come out to the Multicultural Festival, hear some good music, have some good food, and just enjoy yourself and hopefully it doesn't rain. This is what I have to say. So public, see you this Sunday.

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Alderman Comeau.

Alderman Comeau

Yes, thank you. Just two quick things. I enjoy riding my motorcycle from the heart of Ward 6 over to Penuche's. So I'm so happy to know that we're getting the Cadillac of railroad crossings combined with just a reminder to everybody that paving operations are underway on Main Street between I want to say Pearson and West Hollis.

Alderman Klee

The Hollis's yeah.

Alderman Comeau

So avoid the area if you can but it's going to be worth it when it's done because that is an adventure on a motorcycle I can promise you that.

Second thing, I just want to thank the Committee for supporting the replacement of the playground equipment over at Field's Grove. I won't say everything I said earlier again but it is a long time coming and I know that the people that live in that area are going to appreciate it. So thank you for your support.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? All right.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Alderman Alex Comeau
Committee Clerk