

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 2, 2022

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 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 Tyler Gouveia
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.

Also in Attendance: Cheryl Lindner, Treasury Management Officer
Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Jonathan Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets
Karen Smith, NPD Business Manager
David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater
Karen Smith, NPD Business Manager
Robert Page, Police Captain
Caleb Gilbert, Police Sergeant

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Re: Snow Removal in the amount of in the amount not to exceed \$45,000 funded from 54207 Snow Plowing Services/General Fund

Mayor Donchess

The first communication relates to a contract for snow removal. I'm going to suggest we hold that because no one could come in on that tonight and it's not urgent. Tim Cummings wanted to come in and explain and answer any questions. I will just hold that. If there's no objection, we'll just table it to the next meeting.

MAYOR DONCHESS TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager
Re: Seasonal Dock at Sandy Pond in the amount of \$28,980.94 funded from CDBG: Activity: Sandy Pond Improvements

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A SEASONAL DOCK FROM E Z DOCK OF HUDSON, NH, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,980.94. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 177 PARKS AND RECREATION; FUND: CDBG; ACTIVITY: SANDY POND IMPROVEMENTS

ON THE QUESTION

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Hi. I'm Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. How are you tonight?

Mayor Donchess

Good. How are you?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Good thank you. This dock is going to replace the current dock at Sandy pond. It's in pretty rough shape. The thing I do like about this dock is it's going to be the front rail of it, if you look at it, it's going to be about 30 feet long and is ADA compliant. I thought we did a great job coming up with a design and I really look forward to this. It's going to be great.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Any comments questions from the Committee?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Road Salt in the amount of not to exceed \$465,000 funded from 61514 Salt/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF WINTER ROAD SALT FROM GRANITE STATE MINERALS OF PORTSMOUTH, NH, AND EASTERN MINERALS, INC. OF CHELSEA, MA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$465,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 161 STREETS; FUND: GENEARL; ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION: 61 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

ON THE QUESTION

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

So this contract here was awarded to by the State to Granite State and Eastern Minerals. This is our annual salt procurement for winter ops. and it's coming out of our operating budget – Streets. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Mayor Donchess

And I might add that the price of salt is up 75% from previous years.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

Two years ago, we were at – you're talking this year we're at \$79.22 a ton.

Mayor Donchess

But I believe you've told us we're saving 30% as a result of the brining - 30% of salt...

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

Yeah rough figures are around 20% actually Mr. Mayor but the brining is definitely improving our winter operations and we are saving on the hard rock salt by using the brining.

Mayor Donchess

Good.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. I t's more than just a comment and leading to what you said Mr. Mayor. Mr. Ibarra if I calculated right, we're probably going to use about \$1,000 - it's going to cost \$1,000 less this year because it looked like significantly less amount and that's because of the brining. That was what my question was going to be.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

So actually due to the increase in the pricing, we're going to be able to purchase less material. Because we're brining, it's offsetting the tonnage requirement that we usually have. So we are saving by doing the brining but we're actually bringing in about 3,000 tons less than two years ago.

Alderman Klee

Okay. That's good for the environment. Thank you.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

That is correct.

Mayor Donchess

And anybody else?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: NPD Mobile Command Center in the amount of \$634,379 funding pending approval of R22-070

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A MOBILE COMMAND VEHICLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$634,379 FROM LDV CUSTOM SPECIALTY VEHICLES OF BURLINGTON, WI. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE; FUND: PENDING APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION R-22-070

ON THE QUESTION

Captain Robert Page

Mayor Donchess, members of the Committee I appreciate you letting me speak tonight. I'll just give a quick brief summary as to what we're looking for. I'm here to speak on the replacement of our current mobile command center as you all know. Our current mobile command center is an onsite platform used for command, control, and communications during events such as terrorist attacks, natural disasters, SWAT incidents, and large city events that we have like the Fourth of July and the Holiday Stroll.

The vehicle will be equipped with industry standard technology and allows us to put our main center of operations on the road. The current vehicle is 16 years old and is antiquated. We're looking for \$673,487 to purchase the new vehicle as the Alderman stated from LDV custom specialty vehicles. This price quote has been secure for 60 days and it's good through December 3rd. LDV has already reached out to us and told us that if we don't secure the purchase of this vehicle by then, there's going to be a significant increase just due to inflation and the cost of materials. That's all I have. If there's any questions, I'm happy to answer them.

Mayor Donchess

And I believe the Chief has said that this is a very good command vehicle. There are more expensive versions but he's opted to go for good but not the most expensive.

Captain Robert Page

Yes. There are many, many versions. I can tell you just to give you an idea of the inflation that we've been dealing with. The vehicle that we initially wanted for about the exact same prices we're looking at here has already jumped to \$780,000 from \$650,000 and that was just in the course of a month, a month and a half. So obviously we tried to be cost effective in that we needed something bigger and something more efficient and I think we've settled on a very nice vehicle that will benefit the city at all these types of events.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Questions, comments?

Alderman Klee

Thank you. Just a real quick one. I think we talked about at the public hearings on how long does it take to get this vehicle once we order it and so on.

Captain Robert Page

Unfortunately, they stated anywhere from 18 to 24 months.

Alderman Klee

Okay, thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you Mr. Mayor. Just a quick question. How long do we expect that this will be around for and in full use - like a lifespan if you will?

Captain Robert Page

I would absolutely go with it. We've had the current one for 16 years. It is starting to fall apart. I absolutely believe we will get another 16 to 17 years out of this new vehicle.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you.

Alderwoman Timmons

Yes, I have two questions if you don't mind. Thank you. One is the dual status of this particular vehicle. It will be two command centers at the same time. How would this work?

Captain Robert Page

So it's one command center but it has multiple uses. So one of the main things for us is obviously to be able to use it at these types of events because again, natural disasters can happen to the PD. So a big component of this is being able to take our current dispatching communication center and move that into a mobile unit. So imagine there was a national disaster with the Police Department for some reason had loss of power. We could then transition into this vehicle and run a command center from the Chief down along with call takers and dispatchers who could continue to dispatch to the city and maintain order.

Alderwoman Timmons

May have a follow up?

Mayor Donchess

Yeah.

Alderwoman Timmons

Also would this vehicle be able to be loaned to another city or town or it's just solely Nashua?

Captain Robert Page

Oh it could be loaned to another town. If they asked us for help and we deemed and the Chief deemed that it was necessary, I think they could use it yes.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Anyone else?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: NPD Unmanned Aircraft System in the amount of \$45,487 funded from 71000 Equipment/ARPA Funding

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE DRONE MODEL DJI MATRICE 300 RTK TO CLOUD CITY DRONES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,487. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE DEPARTMENT; FUND: 71000 EQUIPMENT/ARPA FUNDING

ON THE QUESTION

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Good evening Mayor, members of the Committee. We are looking to purchase the M300 Matrice from Cloud City Drone to replace or supplement our current drone inventory. This particular drone is a highly upgraded version with thermal optics and zoom capability that we currently don't have. The drones are used during large scale events such as the Fourth of July, the Stroll, as well as SWAT operations, and any other type of large scale event.

Mayor Donchess

And do you operate it?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

I do.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

Alderman Timmons

I'd like to see a demonstration of this drone, and we can do a flyover, and how does it zoom. Will we ever get a visual?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Absolutely. Anytime you'd like to come down, we can pull it out after we receive it and show you its capabilities.

Alderman Timmons

That's going to be pretty neat. Also, can you zoom in on one person?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Yes I can. It also has the capability to follow so I can follow a vehicle which would limit the liability to our officers and say in a pursuit situation.

Alderman Timmons

Where is it going to be kept? Is it going to be kept in the same facility that you're keeping the one that you have now or...

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

So yes at the Police Department is where it will be based.

Alderman Timmons

Also one other question. How big? Can you kind of give me a visual?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

It's about 32 inches.

Alderman Timmons

Oh, okay.

Mayor Donchess

And how did you learn to fly a drone?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

So the drone unit is made up of about 11 members and we all have to be FAA certified Part 107. So we had to go through a week long training with the FAA and we actually have a – a drone is considered an aircraft. So we have a small aircraft license for drones.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. I'm just glad he didn't say Play Station. I couldn't help that one. I did notice that there was only one bid on this. That's the reason why we chose this one or is it just because we dealt with them before?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

So one of the reasons we chose this one is because it's within 100 mile radius. So service, and repair, and warranty we no longer have to ship out our current drones we purchased from, I believe, from Nevada or something like that. Return time on any type of repairs are warranted seriously limited our capabilities. So now we can drive down and get it fixed. Also, there's very few vendors that sell this particular type of drone.

Alderman Klee

Thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I'm gonna nerd out here for a minute. I'm a big fan of drones myself. During my Undergrad took a class on drones where our final was taking part of that Part 107 that you talked about. Learning all the capabilities and what you can do with drones is pretty incredible. It's great new technology and I'm all for integrating any way we can into the city. I think it's helpful. It's useful. I think it's just awesome. It's good to see we have your own unit in the city.

Alderwoman Timmons

I have one other question. Thank you. Is this stealth? In other words, can someone else see it?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Yes, they can.

Alderwoman Timmons

So how safe is it? If someone else can see it, can they shoot it down or what?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Yes.

Alderman Timmons

With a laser or what?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

In theory, yes but to hit a 32 inch target in the air with no sense of - cuz up in the air you have no sense of depth. So it would be very, very, very different.

Mayor Donchess

So I think what you've offered Alderwoman Timmons is a demonstration?

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Absolutely. I'd be more than happy.

Mayor Donchess

I hope you'll invite other members of the Board to that demonstration.

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert

Absolutely. Yes, Sir.

Mayor Donchess

I'm sure Alderman Gouveia will...

Alderman Gouveia

I may. Just name me the time and place.

Alderwoman Timmons

And no you cannot do it.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Any other questions or comments?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Amy Girard, Purchasing Manager

Re: Amendment #1 in the amount of \$15,863 funded from 53107 Architect & Engineering Services/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE AMENDMENT 1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH HAZEN AND SAWYER FOR DYNAMIC RATE MODEL SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,863. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER, ACCOUNT CATEGORY: 53 PROFESIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES

ON THE QUESTION

David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

Yes, thank you Mayor. This is for Amendment 1 to the contract with Hazen and Sawyer. This was the engineering firm who developed the dynamic sewer rate model for us. The model was needed to determine the appropriate sewer rate to meet our costs, the sewer service cost, as well as ongoing and future projects of the wastewater facility, also the collection system.

We recently had some changes to the billing system software. We also updated our current and future (inaudible) needs based off of our 20 year plan that was developed by another engineering firm. So this amendment will allow Hazen and Sawyer to update their rate model with the current data from the new building software in our project list. It'll also include documentation of the rate analysis, have projected rates for the years 2024 through 2026. It also includes a PowerPoint presentation for that future projected rates. I'd be happy to take any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-22-071

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A THIRD AMENDMENT TO CONCESSION AGREEMENT WITH GRANITE DIAMOND, LLC

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL

ON THE QUESTION

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

This is just the yearly renewal for the Silver Knights organization at Holman Stadium. I think they do a great job and I wouldn't recommend passing this.

Mayor Donchess

It's basically the same terms as we've had in the past, correct?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yes, Mr. Mayor. Yup. This has been renewed several times with them. Just a yearly renewal.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Any discussion?

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 14, 2022 TO OCTOBER 27, 2022

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I was hoping that Mr. Conant would still be on. I'd like to commend Public Works for the Boo fest at Greeley Park on Saturday. It was the first time they stopped doing the Fright Night and they had the haunted house, which was the Parks and Rec building. They had a hayride. It started with two but the line got so long they actually had to bring in another tractor and city employee volunteer to do this. Many of the gardens that had that set up like the spooky settings within that. It was amazing. They had a bonfire. They had pumpkin decorating. They had a Scooby Doo movie

at 6:15 that started. The lines honestly went all the way to the street. There were thousands I think of kids. I'm probably exaggeration but there were definitely hundreds and hundreds of kids that were there in costume. Adults in costume. It was really a fun, fun time. I saw a lot of people from all over the city that was there. We were lucky we had perfect weather and the bonfire was really nice. I think that was my husband's favorite. And the (inaudible) kids did the haunting of the haunted house at Park and Rec. So kudos to our Park and Rec.'s people and Public Works in general.

Mayor Donchess

Great.

Alderwoman Timmons

It was nice to see that Alderman Klee really had a great time.

Alderman Klee

My favorite holiday. I can't help it.

Mayor Donchess

Any other comments?

Alderman Clemons

Mr. Mayor just one quick comment. Next Tuesday is Election Day. Everybody get out and vote.

Mayor Donchess

Definitely.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Alderman Patricia Klee
Committee Clerk, Pro Tem