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WEDNESDAY – 9:30 A.M. AUGUST 22, 2012 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee of the City Council for the City of Elizabeth City met on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building with Chairwoman L. A. Hummer presiding. Those members in attendance were: Hummer, R. T. Donnelly, L. M. Hill-Lawrence and J. W. Peel. City Staff members attending were: City Manager R. C. Olson, Finance Director S. E. Blanchard and Deputy City Clerk V. D. White.

Chairwoman Hummer established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She called for a moment of silent reflection after which she led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

1} APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairwoman Hummer called for action regarding the prepared agenda.

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. M. Hill-Lawrence, seconded by Mayor J. W. Peel to approve the agenda as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hill-Lawrence, Peel, Donnelly and Hummer. Against: None. Motion carried.

2} RECYCLABLE CONTRACT WITH WASTE INDUSTRIES:

Chairwoman Hummer called upon City Manager R. C. Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated this is a contract with Waste Industries which would allow the City to ship recyclables to them and received payment. The advantage that we would have with this contract it would allow the City to co-mingle recyclables. Customers would no longer need to be concerned with keeping recyclables in a separate bin. What Waste Industries is proposing is a two year agreement where they will pay us \$3.00 per ton. The contract would run through July 31, 2014. We would get rid of the yellow bins and go with a 65 gallon yellow roll off container that is very much like the 95 gallons carts. A person could put all of their recyclables in there, bring it out to the curb and then we would lift it up in an automated process. The guys would not have to leave the trucks. It has the potential to allow us to go from a two man recycle truck to a one person recycle truck.

A motion was made by Mayor J. W. Peel, seconded by Councilman R. T. Donnelly to recommend to City Council to



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approve the Waste Industries Recyclables contract. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Peel, Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence and Hummer. Against: None. Motion carried.

3} BID AWARD FOR CHURCH STREET BRIDGE ELECTRIC WORK:

Chairwoman Hummer called upon Mr. Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated this particular item was included in the budget. This is part of a NCDOT reimbursement agreement for the Church Street Extended Bridge. They should start construction after the first of the year. We need to relocate the distribution lines we have that are in conflict. We included in the budget, \$131,000. We did take bids on it and the low bidder was MasTec North America, Inc in the amount of \$48,227.55. One hundred percent of this cost will be reimburse by NCDOT. The bids have been reviewed by Progressive Engineering Consultants and they recommend that the project be awarded to MasTec North America. Inc.

A motion was made by Councilman R. T. Donnelly, seconded by Councilwoman L. M. Hill-Lawrence to recommend to City Council to award the bid for the Church Street Bridge electric distribution line relocation work to MasTec North America, Inc. in the amount of \$48,227.55. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Donnelly, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer and Peel. Against: None. Motion carried.

4} BILL OF SALE FOR US 17 NORTH SEWER LINE:

Chairwoman Hummer called upon Mr. Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated this particular item may not be on the next City Council agenda. He got a call from the County Attorney raising concerns about this last week. He subsequently told him he has not told the County Commissioners what his legal opinion is. What we would like to do is get the Council to approve it and it may or may not be on the agenda Monday night. What this deals with is the 17 North sewer line that the County built in 2006 that basically goes from Knobbs Creek all the way up to the Commerce Industrial Park. Pursuant to the sewer agreement we have with the County there was wording in that agreement that says "upon completion of the force main's construction, the County shall convey ownership of the force main to the City and the City shall own, operate and maintain the force main." That particular force main did cost the County \$1,854,298. We believe the conveyance through a Bill of Sale is not really necessary but we have no objections. He has talked to the City Attorney. The only concern that city staff has is that the County had to secure easements along



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17 North and some of those areas between Lovers Lane and Knobbs Creek their were private easements that were given to the County and we want to make sure that those easements can be transferred to the City if we don't have ownership. That is what the County Attorney is looking into. We are allowed to have any type of customer whether it is residential or commercial within our Planning jurisdiction.

A motion was made by Councilwoman L. M. Hill-Lawrence, seconded by Councilman R. T. Donnelly to recommend to the City Council that contingent upon the County Attorney's opinion to accept ownership, operation and maintenance of the 17 North sewer force main pursuant to the Sanitary Sewer Agreement dated March 17, 2005 as reflected by the Bill of Sale from Pasquotank County. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Against: None. Motion carried.

5} **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chairwoman Hummer called upon City Manager Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated he wanted to follow up on one item that the City Council took action on at the last meeting. You may remember that did authorized city staff to enter into a contract with Ward and Son to replace the air conditioning unit at Knobbs Creek. He has been working with Dennis Gordon to determine because of the age of the unit what our savings and energy costs would be by going to a more energy efficient. We have done those calculations and the pay back is 2.1 years in savings and energy costs.

Chairwoman Hummer stated that after all the going back and forth we have finally decided to have a special work session and have all the Community Grant applications to come to us and make a presentation.

Mr. Olson stated that we looked at the tape concerning that discussion because there was a motion made by Councilman Brooks to have it go before the entire Council. Then there was a very lengthy debate. At the end of the debate Councilman Brooks said so we are voting on keeping it the same way we had it last year which was it went to the Finance Committee. That was not the motion that was on the floor at the time.

Councilman Donnelly said he thought he was talking about the application process.

Mr. Olson said no because the applications had already been received. It does not matter to city staff. We do have 15 applicants totaling \$84,000.



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Mayor Peel said there were a whole lot of emails going around about that.

Mr. Olson said what we decided to do was we went back to the official motion that was made and seconded even though the discussion was going in a different direction. Since one of those items that staff believes some of council was thinking they were voting on something different that what the motion was. So we just went back to what the official minutes of the meeting reflected. We will go forward with that. He doesn't think it matters to any one of us as long as we go through a process.

Ms. Hummer stated that over the years we have found it to be easier because it can get into favorite charities or groups. It is usually very lengthy.

Mayor Peel said he thinks it would be much better if this group may recommendations to the whole city council

Ms. Hummer said but the emails didn't say that.

Mr. Donnelly said every time we make recommendations the Council itself can make changes.

Mr. Olson stated all members of City Council can attend the Finance Committee meetings. At the special meeting he would encourage everyone to just listen to the applicants and then make your decision at a later time. He will write a memo to the full Council explaining the process.

6} ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, Chairwoman L. A. Hummer adjourned the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

L. A. Hummer
Chairwoman