

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**January 13, 2009**  
**Chairman Ronnie Smith**  
**Vice-Chairman Jaclyn Hotard**

Members: Haston Lewis, Danny Millet, Charles Julien, Jaclyn Hotard, Darnel Usry, Ronnie Smith, Cheryl Millet, Dale Wolfe, Steve Lee

**PRESENT:** Haston Lewis, Ronnie Smith, Danny Millet, Charles Julien, Cheryl Millet, Darnel Usry, Dale Wolfe, Steve Lee

**ABSENT:** Jaclyn Hotard

**BID OPENING REPORT/AWARDS:**

**Bid Opening - Concrete sidewalks, driveways and streets parish wide removal and replacement**

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "Mrs. Labat's voice is gone, so I told her I would read them for her. I am just going to read the low bidders on each project. The low bidder for the removal and replacement of concrete sidewalks, driveways and street sections, most of these projects we prepared the specs for the bids. The low bidder on this project was Byron Talbot Construction at \$199,175.00. We recommend that you take these bids under advisement."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to take the bids for concrete sidewalks, driveways and streets parish wide removal and replacement under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Bid Opening - Electrical miscellaneous repairs**

Chuck Savoie stated, "The low bidder was First Contact Electrical out of LaPlace with a bid of \$1,753.70. We recommend that you take these bids under advisement."

**MOTION:** Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to take the bids for electrical miscellaneous repairs under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Bid Opening - Hot mix asphalt overlay on prepared surfaces for parish wide road improvements**

Chuck Savoie stated, "This is for the road improvement program for 2009. The low bidder was Coastal Bridge Company out of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and their bid was \$204,000.00. We recommend that you take these bids under advisement."

Councilman Julien asked, "When will they start repairing the roads?"

Chuck Savoie stated, "Well we will have to bring them back to the board for acceptance of all of them after we check them all. Then after that point and time we will give them a notice to proceed and they can come in and do the work. So we should have them ready for the next meeting."

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to take the bids for the road improvement program for 2009 under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Bid Opening - Corrugated metal, polyethylene (PE) & Polyvinylchloride (PVC) culverts**

Chuck Savoie stated, *"This is for the plastic and corrugated metal culverts. The two bidders were F&G Supply out of Kenner and Coburn's Supply out of New Orleans. There are forty items and they vary each. We need to do a total average of each one of them and we haven't had time to do that. So before we determine a low bidder we recommend that these bids be taken under advisement."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to take the bids for corrugated metal, polyethylene (PE) & polyvinylchloride (PVC) culverts under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Bid Opening - Annual fuel requirements**

Chuck Savoie stated, *"The over the rack low bid was Siarc Oil Company out of Gramercy at .10315. We recommend that we take these bids under advisement."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to take the bids for the annual fuel requirements for 2009 under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Bid Opening - Liquid chlorine & sulfur dioxide**

Chuck Savoie stated, *"There was only one bidder on this and it was DPC out of Reserve. All of their items are there, but it needs to be reviewed. We recommend that we take this bid under advisement."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to take the bid for liquid chlorine and sulfur dioxide under advisement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

**Pat McTopy - (Tabled 12-23-08) Authorization to execute an engineering services contract with Buchart Horn Inc. for design work at US 61 and Belle Terre Blvd and US 61 & 51 to relieve traffic congestion**

At the request of administration the above item will remain tabled.

**Pat McTopy - Request authorization to advertise for a 20' Knuckleboom loader**

Pat McTopy, Chief Administrative Assistant, stated, *"We have two units right now to help us with our tree limb pick up program. One is fairly old and has been requiring a lot of maintenance. The newer one has also been requiring maintenance and we recommend now that we be authorized to advertise for a new grapple truck."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to advertise for a 20' Knuckleboom loader. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

### **Any and all other financial concerns**

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I have one item. I was invited to meet with the Parish President, Mr. McTopy and Mr. Buddy Boe. At that time Mr. Hubbard informed me that he would like for me to make the motion to give the employees a 2% raise at his recommendation. I appreciate that. Am I correct Sir?"

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, stated, "You are correct."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I am in favor of the 2% raise but like I said I would like to see across the board raises. I think that is the only thing that is going to be fair. All you are doing is making the big people big and the little ones stay where they are at really."

Councilman Smith stated, "I understand exactly what you are saying Mr. Lewis. I had the same concern. I think we need to get with administration on that for any future raises."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I disagree with you Mr. Smith regarding the percentages not being fair to the hourly wagers. I think that is something that we need to address before we keep giving percentages."

Councilman Julien asked, "How long will it take for the raises to go into effect? I know I will be asked."

Bill Hubbard stated, "We can make it retro-active."

Councilman Lee stated, "I respect my fellow colleagues, Mr. Wolfe's motion and comments about the meeting. I would like to hear, for the record, from administration that it is their recommendation that we give the 2% across the board increase. I would like that made part of the record before I cast my vote."

Bill Hubbard stated, "Let me clarify something for Mr. Julien. Stacey just told me this will go into effect on the next pay period. I thought we could make it retro-active, but I was corrected. It is our recommendation to go ahead and give our employees a 2% yearly raise just to help them with inflation and what not. I think this has been custom throughout the history of this parish and we want to keep on making sure that our employees are taken care of."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to give all parish employees a 2% raise across the board, at the recommendation of the parish president. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

