

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**July 22, 2008**  
**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:** Cheryl Millet, Steve Lee, Haston Lewis, Jaclyn Hotard, Ronnie Smith, Danny Millet, Charles Julien, Darnel Usry

**ABSENT:** Dale Wolfe

**BID OPENING REPORT/AWARDS:**

**BID AWARDS - Debris Monitoring**

Paul Oncale stated, "A couple of weeks ago we opened up three proposals for debris monitoring. They were received from AllSouth Consulting Engineering, Meyer Engineering and Beck Disaster Recovery. After reviewing all the proposals and evaluating the perimeters measured, it is administration's recommendation to award a four year contract to Beck Disaster Recovery."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to award the bid for debris monitoring to Beck Disaster Recovery with a four year contract. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

**Mike Choudhery/C.J. Savoie - Change order & Substantial completion - 500,000 gallon elevated tank**

Mike Choudhery, Hitech Engineers, stated, "The tank is in operation. It has been completed. It has been installed now for a couple of months. We had to make some minor changes. One was that the water line was too deep, so we had to pay the contractor a little bit extra money for that and the parish requested that we have a 24 foot gate rather than a 12 foot gate. The gate has been installed. The third thing was because of the larger gate, we had to move a fire hydrant a few feet away and that has not been done yet."

C. J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "I just wanted to tell you that we are in agreement with this because we are the ones that requested the change order."

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to grant a change order in the amount of \$6,443.00 for the 500,000 gallon elevated tank. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

C. J. Savoie, stated, "We also need, because we have to close this project out, a substantial completion on the project. Administration is recommending this."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to grant a certificate of substantial completion on the 500,000 gallon elevated tank. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

**Pat McTopy - Request for authorization to apply for a LGAP grant to fund the Edgard Water Plant raw water pump project**

Pat McTopy, Chief Administrative Officer, stated, "Each year the parish is allocated funding under the LGAP program and this year we have funding in the amount of \$144,000.00. We would like to apply to use that money to complete construction of the Edgard raw water intake facility at the water plant in Edgard. It has been a problem for a couple of years and we need these extra dollars to complete that project."

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded Resolution R08-21 A resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development local Government Assistance Program for the structure of the Edgard Water Plant. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

**Pat McTopy - Authorization to enter into an agreement with Principal Engineering for structural evaluation of both East and West bound Woodland Drive Bridge at the Montz Canal**

Pat McTopy stated, "We have a situation there that could present a hazard to the public. Some weeks back a bridge inspector with the state that was going to a bridge that he inspects on Woodland Drive at the Vicknair Canal happened to cross this bridge on Woodland and Montz Canal and he noticed that it shook. Although he was under no obligation to stop because it wasn't a bridge under his jurisdiction, he felt that he should. He did and saw what he deemed to be some potential for serious problems. He advised the parish of this and we think we should be allowed to move forward and do a structural analysis of the two spans."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to grant the administration authorization to enter into an agreement with Principal Engineering for structural evaluation of both East and West bound Woodland Drive Bridge at the Montz Canal. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

**Any and all other financial concerns**

Brenda Labat, Director of Purchasing, stated, "Today we opened bids for parish vehicles. We had out for bid four half ton pick up trucks. There was only one bidder on this that being Rainbow Chevrolet. The price is \$19,397.00 and one expedition Tahoe for \$27,580.00. We have looked at the bids and the specifications and the administration is requesting authorization to make these purchases."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "How many vehicles are we purchasing?"

Brenda Labat stated, "Five, four trucks and an expedition."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Who is the expedition for?"

Brenda Labat stated, "Ralph Bean, excuse me it is a Tahoe that he will be getting."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "That is for Ralph. He can't drive a pick up truck? I am just asking it is \$10,000.00 more."

Brenda Labat stated, "He had that before. We are replacing the vehicle that he had."

Councilman Smith asked, "I know there is such a thing as a state bid that the school board goes through. Are we authorized as a parish entity to receive those rates also?"

Brenda Labat stated, "Yes we are. When we went out for bids we hadn't checked the state rate. So this is a bid process because of the volume of the bid."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I am not sure but I think there is a special form that you use as a governmental body when buying cars. I know from with the levee board even when you buy from those dealers they give you a special rate for government. So we need to look at that to make sure we are getting that rate."

Brenda Labat stated, "If the council wishes we can go ahead and look at that."

Councilman Smith stated, "Yes can we do that please."

#### **Adjournment**

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