

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
August 12, 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 OPENING - Telecommunications System

Paul Oncale, Director of Public Safety, stated, "We opened up proposals this afternoon. There were two proposals received. One from Blackbox Network Services in the amount of \$158,267.05. The second proposal was from Reserve Telecommunications in the amount of \$232,755.16. Administration request that we take these under advisement."

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to take the bids for the telecommunications system under advisement. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

BID OPENING - Electrical Miscellaneous Repairs

Paul Oncale stated, "This is for Electrical Miscellaneous repairs. There was only one proposal received from River Bend Electric in the amount of \$5,965.00. We would also like to take this under advisement until it is thoroughly reviewed."

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to take the one bid for electrical miscellaneous repairs under advisement. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Bill Hubbard - Proposal for the St. John the Baptist Parish Historic redevelopment and beautification plan from Greg Cantrell, Inc.

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, stated, "This is a contract that we would like to enter into with Mr. Greg Cantrell and Associates. This is going to give us a blueprint for the future developments of historical districts in LaPlace, Reserve, Garyville and Edgard. Mr. Cantrell's work, if you have ever passed through Kenner there is a little place called River Town between Airline Hwy and the River. This is a good example of some of his past work. We have been talking to Mr. Cantrell over the last few months and are just asking for the council's blessing on this issue."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to accept the proposal for the St. John the Baptist Parish Historic redevelopment and beautification plan from Greg Cantrell, Inc. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Pat McTopy - Authorization to execute contracts for the Lions Water Treatment Plant expansion project as follows: 1) Engineering services agreement with C.J. Savoie Consulting Engineers 2) South Central Planning for grant administration and other services Resolutions R08-25 & R08-26 3) Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the state in connection with the \$1,000,000 EDAP Grant

Bill Hubbard stated, "The next item is an authorization to enter into contracts with C.J. Savoie Consulting Engineers. It is for the upgrade of the Lions Water Treatment Plant. If you remember several months ago we were very fortunate enough to have the new sugar refinery that is getting ready to break ground pretty soon. Part of that project will require that the Lions Water Treatment Plant be expanded to handle the additional capacity that they are going to be needing and also we have applied for several grants and as a condition of some of those grants, we do need to proceed with this work and we have negotiated with Mr. Savoie and we recommend that we move forward with this contract."

Councilman Lee stated, "Just one quick comment. For those of you that know about Mr. Savoie, he has been our consulting engineer via contract for quite a few years and although in the past I have had some issues whenever I thought there was an issue where there may be a conflict of interest. I can tell you in this case I feel very comfortable with this particular contract because Mr. Savoie has been dealing with this particular plant for probably sixteen years. He probably knows more about it than anybody else and I feel like we are going to get not only the quickest and best job done on this particular contract but also at a discounted price because of the work that he has done in the past on it. So I am going to support the contract."

MOTION: Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to authorize administration to enter into contract with C.J. Savoie Consulting Engineers for engineering services for the Lions Water Plant expansion project. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Bill Hubbard stated, "South Central Planning was the lead roll in applying for these grants and we would just like to enter into a contract with South Central Planning to administer these grants."

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R08-25. A resolution authorizing the execution of the appropriate contract with South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for performance of administrative services in connection with the Lions Water Plant EDA and EDAP Grants. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R08-26. A resolution authorizing the execution of the appropriate contract with South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) in the amount of \$5,500 for performance of administrative services in connection with the Lions Water Plant Delta Regional Authority Grant. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Bill Hubbard stated, "Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the state in connection with the one million dollar EDAP Grant. This is something that we need to enter into an agreement with the state so that we can receive those funds."

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to authorize administration to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the state in connection with the \$1,000,000 EDAP Grant. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Pat McTopy - Recommendation regarding the bids received for vehicles

Paul Oncale stated, "A couple of weeks ago there were bids opened for five vehicles. Four trucks and one SUV. It was taken under advisement at that time. We recommend the approval of these vehicles. Four trucks at the price of \$19,397.00 each and \$27,580.00 for the SUV."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to authorize administration to purchase four trucks in the amount of \$19,397.00 each and one SUV in the amount of \$27,580.00. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Pat McTopy - Authorization to seek proposals for an asset management program for St. John's Geographic Information System (GIS)

Bill Hubbard stated, "We currently have a GIS system that we have been working on for probably twelve years. What we are doing now is we just want to go out for proposals to make sure that we are getting the best bang for our buck. We just want to get out there and see what the market has to offer on a GIS system."

MOTION: Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to seek proposals for an asset management program for St. John's Geographic Information System (GIS). The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Pat McTopy - Authorization to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with St. James Parish for the sale of surplus water meters

Bill Hubbard stated, "We have some extra water meters that we would like to get rid of and they would like them. So this is pretty much a piece of legislation that is going to be beneficial for both of us."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with St. James Parish for the sale of surplus water meters. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Any and all other financial concerns

Councilman Smith stated, "I see that there is one item. The Carrollwood Road Project if I am not mistaken Mr. Hubbard."

Bill Hubbard stated, "Yes, we all know about Carrollwood and the condition of it. As you know for the past several months we have been in negotiations with Wal-Mart. We finally got word back that they are willing to participate on the re-construction of Carrollwood from

Airline Hwy. to Dominican. We have plans and specifications ready. We would like to go out for bids and see if we can get that piece of roadway reconstructed."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I will just say really briefly. I want to commend the administration for working on this. Thanks to Wal-Mart, although the parish had already taken the position that we were going to go ahead and repair this road one way or another. I am glad to see it moving forward and thanks again for all your hard work."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to authorize administration to go out for bids for the Carrollwood Road Project. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

Adjournment

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