CITY OF NORWALK
Norwalk City Hall
125 East Avenue, PO Box 5125
Room 225
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125
P: 203-854-7791 / F: 203-857-0143

CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
June 6, 2017

ATTENDANCE: John Igneri, Chair; Thomas Livingston; Richard Bonenfant; Michael Corsello

STAFF: Bruce Chimento, Director; Lisa Burns, Principal Engineer

Mr. Igneri called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

Mr. Chimento introduced the current four (4) interns to the Committee. Domenick Peragine, UNH Graduate; Jeff Fredericks, CCSU Graduate; Mario Pizighelli, CCSU Senior; Franklin Bartley, CCSU Junior. Each intern gave a brief summary of their duties at Public Works. Mr. Chimento also introduced Tom Little as the Permit Engineer and described his duties to the Committee.

Mr. Igneri then moved on to the Public Input section of the agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Diane Lauricella began stating that she thinks it's terrific that the department is utilizing interns. She then asked if the committee would reconsider the allotment of time given to the public to speak under the public input section of the agenda. She said that she appreciates being able to speak but would like them to consider being a little more lenient with the time. Ms. Lauricella said that she is here to talk about item #4 on the agenda. She said that she is very pleased with all the research put into finding a vehicle regarding the 2017 Ford F-250 truck. She said that she would like to have a discussion about the fuel economy's minimal standards and all of the equipment that we use in the City to save the tax payer money on fuel. She said she asked the past director but to no avail. Ms. Lauricella stated that she would like to discuss item #5 regarding the concrete curbing and sidewalk contract to The Grasso Companies, LLC. She asked that this item is not passed to the Council. She said that it is ill advised for The Grasso Companies, LLC to be allowed to apply for any contract as they hide responsibility. She continued to say that DEEP still has an issue with them. She said that she asks that the Committee rejects this item.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017.**

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM**
****MR. CORSELLO ABSTAINED**
****MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION**

2. **AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDERS FOR PROJECT PM 2017-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $675,000.00.**

Account No: 09 16 5010 5777 C0516
09 18 5010 5777 C0516
28 35 5100 430 49

Mr. Bonenfant asked for more information regarding the change orders.

Ms. Burns stated that this is to add work for the Board of Education school parking lots and related improvements. She said that the schools are Naramake, Wolfpit, Norwalk High School and Fox Run.

Mr. Livingston asked if these costs were coming out of the school's budget.

Ms. Burns answered yes. She said that there is also an account listed for $100,000 to expand the City Hall Parking Lot and the unused portion of the Malquist Field.

Mr. Livingston asked when the schools would be completed.

Mr. Chimento replied by the summer.

Ms. Burns stated that this is just adding work to the current paving contract for the BOE.

Mr. Bonenfant stated that he is okay with the paving of the schools but he feels that the other part is a controversial topic in regards to the field.

Ms. Burns stated that the design for the field has not begun. She said that they are just adding it to the contract if they so choose to do so. She said that this is just to encumber the funds for now.

Mr. Bonenfant said that he does not agree with it.

Mr. Chimento explained how the item was introduced and the procedures that must take place prior to accomplishing the task. He said that he is planning on paving City Hall parking lot over the Columbus Holiday weekend.

Ms. Burns stated that under this contract City Hall's parking lot is going to be paved so it was just to add that portion of the work.

Mr. Corsello said that he was surprised to see it on the agenda coming from the capital budget.

Ms. Burns stated that it was added at the end.

Mr. Corsello said that he is skeptical about receiving plans that they could live with.

The Committee discussed this item and decided to amend the action removing the $100,000 appropriation for the Malmquist Field.

> *Authorize, the Director of Public Works, to execute Change Orders for Project PM 2017-1 Pavement Management Program, for a sum not to exceed $575,000.00*
>
> ****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE AMENDEDMENT**
> ****AMENDMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**
>
> ****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM**
> ****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS AMENDED**

3. **AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO THE W.I. CLARK COMPANY, FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) JOHN DEERE 624K II FOUR WHEEL DRIVE LOADER, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $154,121.78. STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONTRACT NUMBER 16PSXP0151.**

> Account No: 09 18 4031 5777 C0313

Mr. Chimento stated that this item was in the capital budget that was approved for heavy equipment. He said that the item is off of the state bid and there is a letter stating that they will hold the vehicle at the state bid price.

Mr. Livingston asked what the truck would be used for.

Mr. Chimento responded that it is a replacement loader.

Mr. Corsello asked to have clarification on what exactly it means when you say state bid.

Mr. Chimento answered that the State puts out bids covering a vast variety every year and they are allowed to tap into their bids for a lower price. He said that the Purchasing Department handles all of that.

****MR. IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO TASCA AUTOMOTIVE GROUP CT EAST, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2017 FORD F-250, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $31,935.00.**

Account No: 09 17 4031 5777 C0313

Mr. Livingston asked if this is a replacement truck.

Mr. Chimento answered yes, it will be replacing one of the supervisors truck.

Mr. Livingston said that he noticed it has a plow.

Ms. Burns said that supervisors have plows on their trucks if they ever need to do any touch up work.

Mr. Livingston asked how the truck models are chosen.

Mr. Chimento explained that depending on their needs they may choose the bigger/heavier truck models. He then began to explain some of the fleet trucks.

Mr. Corsello asked if this was on the state bid.

Mr. Chimento answered no. He said that this was their bid.

Mr. Bonenfant asked if there was an advantage to pay more or to buy locally.

Mr. Chimento said that they do their own maintenance on the vehicles unless it is still under warranty. He said that the local dealers would do all the warranty work.

****MR. BONENFANT MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

5a. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC. FOR PROJECT NO. RD 2017-2 CONCRETE CURBS AND SIDEWALKS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $826,618.00. ***(SUBJECT TO THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS AWARD CONTRACT PM2017-1).***

Account No: 09 18 4021 5777 C0318

5b. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BRUCE CHIMENTO, TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON CONTRACT WITH THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC. FOR PROJECT NO. RD 2017-2 CONCRETE CURBS AND SIDEWALKS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $166,763. THIS VALUE CONSISTS OF 10% THE CONTRACT VALUE, PLUS AN $84,101

ESTIMATED COST FOR SIDEWALK AND CURB REPLACEMENT WORK TO BE PERFORMED FOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AT SIDE BY SIDE SCHOOL AT THE INTERSECTION OF CHESTNUT ST. AND HENRY ST. TO BE FUNDED BY AN URBAN CORRIDOR ACCOUNT.

Account No: 09 18 4021 5777 C0318
09 18 0910 5777 C0287

The Committee discussed the compliance issue regarding the contractor. It was decided that the Contract will be subject to the same terms and conditions as award contract PM2017-1. The Committee would also like a letter from Planning and Zoning stating there are no issues with this contractor.

Mr. Chimento stated that they are obligated to choose the lowest responsible bidder and they do not consider any other extenuating circumstances. He said that their work has been alright in the past and that is why they have moved forward with The Grasso Companies, LLC.

Mr. Igneri stated that the next lowest responsible bidder would be increased by $21,000.

Mr. Livingston asked if they have been any problems at the sites. He also asked if they are in compliance with everything including zoning.

Mr. Igneri stated that there have been several complaints about the hiring of The Grasso Companies, LLC. He said that he phoned Grasso Jr's lawyer in regards to the complaints.

Mr. Chimento stated that he spoke with Michael Wrinn in planning and zoning and believes that there may be an issue with an auto body shop in the building.

Mr. Corsello stated that would be Grasso Sr. who would have to take care of that issue.

Mr. Livingston said that he would like to see something that states they are in compliance. He also said that this contract should have the same requirements as the last contract that was awarded to them.

Mr. Igneri summarized the issue of awarding the contract to The Grasso Companies, LLC. He said that they do good work, they do not get surprise change orders and the work is being done rapidly and efficiently.

Mr. Livingston wanted to know the meaning of apparent low bidder.

Ms. Burns explained the process. She said that when the bid opening takes place the documents are not validated at that point, so before that happens the engineer would just read the bottom line to find the lowest apparent bidder, then the engineer confirms that the bond is good and all the numbers are correct. Once that is completed the lowest apparent bidder becomes the lowest responsible bidder.

Mr. Corsello asked Ms. Burns to clarify what she meant by The Grasso Companies, LLC are easy to work with.

Ms. Burns stated that from a contract administration standpoint they are easy to work with. She stated that all bonds are checked for validity by the Corporation Counsel.

Mr. Bonenfant asked if Public Works buys and tests the asphalt used for paving.

Mr. Chimento answered that the contractor buys the asphalt and the department completes the tests at the plant.

Mr. Livingston suggested that the resolution is put in now prior to going to Council.

Ms. Burns suggested that a sentence is put on the item stating "subject to the same terms and conditions as contract #PM2017-1".

Mr. Bonenfant wanted to be clear that he voted yes to the amendment and voted no to the action.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED THE AMENDMENT**
****AMENDMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED THE ITEM AS AMENDED**
****MR. BONENFANT OBJECTED**
****MOTION PASSED WITH ONE OBJECTION**

6. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CITY/STATE AGREEMENT FOR DEMAND DEPOSIT FOR STATE PROJECT 102-325 (INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON U.S. ROUTE 1 AT ROUTE 53), FOR A TOTAL SUM NOT TO EXCEED $31,900.00.

Account No: 09 18 4021 5777 C0318

Ms. Burns stated that the project was reviewed in 2014 for intersection improvements. The project has already been awarded and the State is working on Route 53/Westport Avenue. She said that the historic district for East Avenue extends to that corner. She began to explain the wall, showing the members where it will be located and what it would look like. She said that it is a high traffic area.

Mr. Livingston asked how large the proposed wall would be.

Ms. Burns replied 1000 sq. ft.

Mr. Bonenfant asked if the wall will be used for safety making people use the other side of the street.

Ms. Burns replied that there will be sidewalk improvements as well.

Mr. Bonenfant asked if the wall could trap people since it is so hard to cross the street due to the crosswalk button not working.

Mr. Chimento said that they are changing the traffic signalization.

Ms. Burns added that there will also be pedestrian improvements. She said that the wall will wrap around the corner.

Mr. Corsello asked for the purpose of the wall.

Ms. Burns replied to widen the sidewalk.

****MR. IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

A. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT – APRIL 2017

Mr. Chimento stated that they are right where they should be with solid waste.

B. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT – MAY 2017

There was no discussion on the customer service report this evening.

C. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Chimento reviewed and discussed all correspondence. He stated that these items would have been on the next agenda and asked permission to move straight to council. He explained the sidewalk improvement in regards to the Safe Routes to Schools Roton Middle School Project.

Ms. Burns interjected stating that the bid opening is scheduled for the beginning of July and would like to forward this item to the July 11, 2017 Common Council Agenda.

Mr. Chimento discussed the upcoming drainage project. He explained the drainage and flooding issue on Saddle Road to the Committee.

Ms. Burns stated that the bid opening is scheduled for July 13, 2017 and would like to forward the item to the July 25, 2017 Common Council Agenda. She also explained the project to the Committee.

Mr. Chimento asked if there were any questions on the remaining correspondence that was in the packet.

The Committee began to discuss correspondence regarding the use of a City bucket truck. It was determined that the City was well within management rights to use the bucket truck.

Correspondence from the Chief of Police regarding Protective Measures was discussed. Ms. Burns stated that Mr. Little wrote a Standard Operating Procedure for Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) in response to the use of police officers on a project.

There were no further discussions regarding correspondence.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Mr. Igneri discussed the possibility of cancelling the July 2017 meeting.

****MR. IGNERI MOVED TO CANCEL THE JULY 5, 2017 MEETING**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2017 in Room 225.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ADJOURN**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique Cipriano
Executive Assistant
Public Works Department