

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
JULY 12, 2011
4:00 P.M.

Chairman Rico called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order with Councilpersons Ladd, Benson, Berz, Scott, Gilbert and Murphy present. City Attorneys Phil Noblett and Patrick Bobo and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Dan Johnson, Brian Shultz, Greg Haynes, John Bridger, Danny Thornton, Paul Page, Steve Leach, Lee Norris, Gary Hilbert, Richard Beeland, Chief Maffett, Jerry Stewart, Mike Patrick, Mark Keil, Johnny Feagans, Dennis Malone, Brian Kiesche, Bill Payne, Daisy Madison, Chief Parker, Dickie Hutsell, Jim Templeton, Gene Hyde, Sgt. Francis, and David Johnson.

Adm. Leach began with **Ordinance 5©**, abandonment of sewer for Volkswagen Group of America/Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon. **Ordinance 6(d)** was an abandonment for Patricia Washington of an unnamed alley located in the south line of the 600 Block of E. 17th St. This is in the Jefferson Park area and approval is recommended.

Resolution 7(a) was discussed earlier. Adm. Leach noted that Gene Hyde was present if there were any questions. This is for VW tree planting and is matched dollar for dollar.

Adm. Leach explained that **Resolution 7(g)** related to **7(f)** on next week's agenda. This is the Drainage Ditch Repair on Sterling Ave.—the WPA Ditch. He explained that we had to extend the time. Mr. Malone added that this ditch repair was approved in October and November of last year; that slopes had fell and the cobblestone walls were giving out. We went through the process of rebuilding the drainage ditch in bad weather. He showed a picture where we were working in 11.4" of snow, stating that we lost six days; that 45 days were below 32 degrees and 9-10 days we were not over 32 degrees. He explained that all of the water comes down to this ditch when it rains, and we lost days—that we experienced a lot of rain that caused this project to go longer. There were also problems with designs, and we had to do a re-design to get better soil pressures.

Councilwoman Scott asked if this was complete and was told "yes". She asked if they were happy with it and if we would have a ribbon cutting to reveal the "illustrious ditch"? Mr. Malone responded "not that he knew of". He said that it was a five and one-half month project.

Mr. Malone then went to **7(f)** on next week's agenda that authorizes a change order with Dillard Construction, Inc. relative to the Sterling Ave. Drainage Ditch Repair,

increasing the contract amount by \$74,370.33, for a revised contract amount not to exceed \$766,926.58. Mr. Malone stated that we used the contingency amount in order to keep this under budget; that funds were contributed to keep this under budget; that the Golf and Country Club had savings.

Councilwoman Ladd quipped that federal and state compliance is priceless.

Resolution (h) authorizes a contract with Rembco Geotechnical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$29,430 with a contingency amount of \$2,943 for an amount not to exceed \$32,373 for Lightfoot Mill Road Ground Improvements. Mr. Malone explained that there was cross drainage failure because of soil conditions. Councilman Gilbert asked if this would fix the problem and was told “yes”.

Resolutions (i) and (j) are related. Resolution (i) authorizes an agreement with Environmental Materials for the services of a qualified, trained and bonded scale operator(s) to operate the City’s scales at the City Landfill on Birchwood Pike. Adm. Leach noted that Attorney Bobo was present from the City Attorney’s office and had a lot to do with this. Resolution (j) authorizes an agreement with Environmental Materials to allow the City of Chattanooga to remove and transport dirt from C&D for the mutual benefit of the City and C&D for a dollar per year.

Councilman Gilbert asked, concerning Resolution (i), why we did not hire our own employees? Mr. Leach explained that we would have to hire two at \$100,000 for certified scale operators and using a camera would only cost \$1.00 a year. Councilman Gilbert noted that the Resolution said “bonded”—that certified and bonded were two different things. He questioned if we would have to “bond” the person and he would have to be “certified” to operate the scales? He questioned it costing us \$100,000 for scale operators. Adm. Leach responded that the employees would have to be able to read and write and use a computer, and there would have to be a back-up; that this amount included the salary and the benefits. Councilman Gilbert asked if anyone was working for Public Works who could be a scales operator? Adm. Leach stated that his employees were doing their jobs; that we would have to establish new positions. Councilman Gilbert still maintained that he would like it to be our own people. Adm. Leach stated that they would be working for us—that this is a robust procedure—that we could either hire two people or use a camera for a \$1 per year. Councilman Gilbert asked if this could not be offset with the agreement with Mr. Marler? Adm. Leach stated not to the amount of \$100,000. Councilman Gilbert still maintained that we could get the employees cheaper than \$100,000, with Adm. Leach maintaining that their plan was a good deal for the City.

Councilwoman Scott asked if one person was running the scales now? She was told there are two. She noted that we would be using the camera for something. Mr.

Stewart indicated that the camera had been in place for a year. She asked if we had used the cameras, with Mr. Stewart stating “yes”. Councilwoman Scott wanted to know if the cameras were watching the scales employees?

Councilwoman Ladd stated that she thought there were enough checks and balances for us to do a prudent job, and she was not for extending employees when we have another way of doing this—that there would also be benefits involved for the employees that we would have to provide—that there was no sense for this type of expense.

Councilman Benson asked if we were saying that the ones we hire would watch the watchers—that we had to have some trust factor with employees.

Councilman Gilbert felt like the requirements for a scale operator would just be a high school education—that rather than paying them \$50,000, it could be \$25,000 to \$30,000. Councilwoman Ladd pointed out that in looking at the cost of employees, it is not just the salary but the benefits—that it was not a \$50,000 salary, but this included benefits.

Resolution (k) authorizes temporary right-of-way usage for Rich Heinsman located at multiple locations along the 800 Block of E. Houston Street and its intersection with E. Marin Luther King Blvd. to install a moveable sign along multiple portions of the right-of-way. Public Works was recommending denial of this. Mr. Malone explained that it does not meet the City Code requirements for signage. Adm. Leach noted that the signs are already out, and this was upsetting to them; that they were recommending denial; that he was not sure how long the signs had been sitting out. Mr. Heinsman was present, stating that he was present to answer any questions.

Mr. Hutsell referred to Chapter 3 of the City Code that prohibits temporary signs. He stated that the Code does not allow this—that it is a violation of the City Code.

Councilwoman Berz asked if it was against the law? The answer was “correct”. She then questioned why we were even discussing this? Chairman Rico explained that he had acknowledged the presence of Mr. Heinsman out of courtesy. Councilwoman Berz confirmed that we were not being arbitrary—that this was against the law.

Resolution (l) authorizes an increase in the amount of Purchase Order No. 505977 to Engineered Software Products, Inc. for the upgrade of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System at the Waste Resources Division for an amount of \$3,270.12 for a total amount of \$20,220.12. It was noted that this is a slight increase in the cost of the contract for our communication system. Mr. Stewart explained that there are 18 POC’s in the system, and they did not have the proper communication.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR JULY 19, 2011

Ordinance 6(a) First Reading closes and abandons a portion of an unopened alley parallel to the 800 Block of Dallas Rd. for the North Chattanooga Enterprise LLC. Public Works and Planning both recommended denial.

Resolution (a) authorizes payment to R1 TN 2, LLC for a right-of-way easement relative to the Shallowford Rd. at Jenkins Rd. Intersection Improvements Contract in an amount not to exceed \$79,177.50. This is part of the round-about and a settlement for these folks. Councilman Gilbert asked when this project would be started and if people would know about the detours? Adm. Leach responded that there is a schedule for a minimal amount of detours for about ten days.

Mr. Malone explained that the first 30 days will be underground work; that Phase 2 will be the south leg of Jenkins Rd. that will be closed for two weeks; then we would move into a partial closure of Shallowford Rd. for two weeks; that this is planned for the School Fall Break, when we will have to close down the intersection, weather permitting. He added that when it comes time for the closures, they would have press announcements.

Adm. Leach stated that they did not want to close the intersection any longer than they had to; that they wanted to do it on the school break if there is decent weather.

Councilman Benson stated that it sounded like 6-8 weeks that streets will be blocked, with Mr. Malone responding “no sir”—that south Jenkins will be two weeks and E. Shallowford Rd. two weeks. Councilman Benson asked where the detours would be—would they be through Ashwood? Mr. Malone responded that the detours will be marked, with Councilman Benson stating that if it is through Ashwood, then we will need temporary speed humps.

Resolution (b) authorizes a Bituminous Surface Treatment to Volunteer Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$223,782.46, with a contingency amount of \$22,378.54, for an amount not to exceed \$246,161.00. Adm. Leach noted that this was Orchard Knob Ave., prompting Councilwoman Scott to ask that the name of the street be included in the Resolution. Adm. Leach directed this to Attorney Noblett.

Resolutions © and (d) are both final change orders with Brown Brothers, Inc. with the Hamil Road Improvements—Highway 153 to Hixson Pike both being decreases.

Resolution (e) authorizes Change Order #1 Final with SAK Construction, LLC relative to the Upper Amnicola and Tiftonia Interceptor Rehabilitation Contracts and is also a decrease.

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Resolution (f) is a final change order for Dillard Construction, Inc. relative to the Sterling Ave. Drainage Ditch Repair and has already been talked about.

Resolution (i) authorizes acquisition of 12+ acres located at 155 and 159 Hamm Road from Affiliated Transportation, Inc. for a consideration of \$2,000,000, plus closing costs. It was noted that Danny Thornton assisted in this, and it relates to the CSO Project that will be the Moccasin Bend Visitor Center. Councilman Murphy surmised that this was not “raw” land and asked if contained structures? Adm. Leach responded “yes”. Mr. Thornton added that there was a trucking company with a warehouse. Councilman Murphy noted that this explained the cost. He then asked if this was paving season? Adm. Leach asked him if it smelled good when he was running, with Councilman Murphy stating that it was good to see.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.