

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
October 3, 2022
City Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Michael Postma, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert and Police Chief David McKichan
Public Works Director Steven Lang, Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Park and Rec Director Dave Merrill, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann

APPEARING IN PERSON: Austin Daily Herald, Laura Helle

Mayor King opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Item No. 1 – Library Construction Bids

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the bids were opened recently for the Library remodeling project. The City received four bids on the project, however, the bids were much more than the engineering estimates. She stated she met with the Library board the previous Friday about the bids amounts. She stated the Library Board approved funding from the Weinke Fund and the Library Fund balance toward the project. Ms. Clinefelter reviewed the proposed design layout for the project.

She stated the Council could reject all the bids and re-bid it at a different time, the City could advance the funding and the Library could pay the funds back or the City could provide all of the additional funding.

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert stated the library has fund balance in the approximate amount of \$350,000, there will be additional building fund dollars due to increased interest rates and there is fund balance in the City's general fund, partially due to Covid funds.

Ms. Clinefelter stated the Library Board will be fundraising for the project.

Council Member Baker asked if there is any way to reduce the bid amounts.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated you cannot take costs out of the base bid but you could pick and choose the additional items to reduce the cost of the project. He wasn't sure of

the reason for the high bids. He noted the bid must be awarded by the first Council meeting in November.

Council Member Baskin state the City remodels the Library every 30 years and would like to complete the project correctly. Mayor King spoke in support of the project.

After additional discussion, moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Baker, to budget \$700,000 to the Library project with \$100,000 to be repaid from the Weinke Funds. Carried.

The item will be placed on a future Council meeting.

Item No. 2 – Lift Station Consolidation – Design Proposal

Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum stated the City is preparing for a large sanitary sewer collection system project in the summer of 2023 which will involve the removal of three sanitary sewer lift stations, the construction of one new sanitary sewer lift station, construction of 5,200 feet of gravity sanitary sewer main, construction of 2,000 feet of sanitary sewer force main, construction of 25 sanitary sewer manholes and the reconstruction of 10 blocks of streets with an approximate cost of \$4.3 million. The project will be completed in three phases in 2023, 2024 and 2027. Mr. Lang requested engineering services from WHKS due to the complexity of the project. WHKS provided an estimate in the amount of \$12,500 for the services.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the cost has been laid out in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Baskin, recommending approval of a design services contract with WHKS for the lift station consolidation project. Carried.

The item will be on the October 16, 2022 Council Agenda.

Item No. 3 – Stop Sign Request – 27th Ave NW & 11th Street NW

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested a stop sign at the intersection of 27th Avenue NW and 11th Street NW in Creekside Business Park due to the addition of Nu-Tek.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Baker, recommending approval of a stop sign at 27th Avenue NW and 11th Street NW. Carried.

The item will be on the October 16, 2022 Council agenda.

Item No. 4 – Addition of Emergency Siren

Police Chief David McKichan stated the City operates nine emergency sirens which over the City of Austin. It was recently discovered that the sirens do not reach the recently annexed NW

areas of Austin and an additional siren will be needed. Chief McKichan provided a quote from ANCOM Communications for the siren with installation in the amount of \$32,931.75

Moved by Council Member Baker, seconded by Council Member Fischer, recommending approval of an additional emergency siren in the NW part of Austin with funding from 2022 contingency funds. Carried.

The item will be on the October 16, 2022 Council agenda.

Item No. 5 - City Accounting and HR Software

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert stated the City has used LOGIS for its financial software since 2010. The software is in need of an upgrade and LOGIS has provided Austin with an estimated implementation cost of \$252,555 and \$141,692 for each year thereafter, with annual increases. The annual cost is approximately \$58,00 more than the current contract. LOGIS is asking for a ten-year commitment from the City.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, recommending the approval of an agreement with LOGIS for accounting and HR software. Carried.

The item will be on the October 16, 2022 Council Agenda.

Item No. 6 – 2022 Budget Discussion

None.

Item No. 7 - Administrative Report

City Administrator Craig Clark stated there may be a closed session on October 13th at 4:00 p.m.

Item No. 8 – Open Discussion

Council Member-at-Large Austin discussed the administrative citation program.

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adjourning the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk