

## Capital Improvements Committee Minutes

April 7, 2016

Item No. 1: Mayor Best called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Item No. 2: **Roll Call** - Members present were Mayor Karen Best, City Administrator Bill Malinen, Alderman Mike Booth, and Doug Lay. Also present were City Engineer/Director of Public Works David Miller, Finance Director Jamie Rouch, Assistant City Engineer Matt Filice, Utilities Director Mike Ray, Assistant Finance Director Stacy McCallister. Others present were Eric Dove.

Item No. 3: **Discussion Engineer Selection Compton Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Study** - David Miller stated that the Compton WWTP was built in the 1980's and at the time, a berm/levee was constructed around the plant site to protect the plant in the event of a major 100-year flood event. Since the time the berm was constructed several changes have occurred: (1) the plant capacity has been expanded 100% and now has a capacity of 5.1 million gallons per day; (2) the Corps of Engineers and FEMA have revised their flood elevation data and the berms are no longer calculated to be above the 100-year flood level; and (3) climate change has resulted in more frequent large flooding events with future increases predicted. He further stated that during the December 2015 flood event the lake level was less than one foot away from overtopping the berm and it is obvious that something must be done to better protect the plant from threat of flooding. Request for Proposals were sent to firms on file with the city. Assistant Engineer Matt Filice has reviewed the proposals received and prepared the memorandum for recommendation. Matt Filice provided summary of his memo to the committee and stated that the city has had 3 flood events in the last 10 years so it is time to provide adequate protection to the plant. Several items in the RFP were relevant in the review of the proposals including knowledge of the project, relevant experience, previous experience, qualified staff and detailed discussion of issues and approach for the project. He stated that determining the level of protection during a 100-year or 500-year storm event within practical measures with the age of the plant and the value of the plant during downtime is key. The city currently has seepage underneath the levees so when water level comes up we need to be pumping out from behind the plant. We also need to be concerned with the impact on the surrounding properties. If we raise the berm or levee around the plant, we could conceivably raise the water levels upstream and affect the surrounding neighborhoods so that would be another item to evaluate in the study. Due to the complex issues, the study, design and construction will probably take several years to complete. He further stated that there are various funding sources available and we need to hire a firm well versed in determining where the city can apply for funding and the eligibility of the funding resources where the city is concerned. Of the proposals received, Black & Veatch and HDR seemed to have the most experience and qualified staffing. Both are national firms and both have provided engineering services to the city in the past.

Mayor Best stated that the only difference in Black & Veatch and HDR was the detailed discussion of issues and approach in that B&V was evaluated by city staff as being excellent wherein HDR was evaluated as good and that should be a main criteria of the evaluation. David Miller stated that HDR's proposal indicated that they teamed up with Palmerton & Parrish of Springfield and they provided good information concerning the underwater seepage. The evaluation of the seepage was definitely a tie breaker in the proposals. Matt stated that due to the complexity of this project,

the city will rely heavily on the firm that is hired for computer modeling, and expertise in the field. Mayor Best inquired of Matt which firm he would feel more comfortable with hiring for the project between B&V and HDR. Matt replied that in reviewing the proposals, Black & Veatch had done more high profiled projects than HDR. Mr. Malinen stated that the analysis is based upon the written proposals only so would it be beneficial to bring those firms in and do some more in depth interviewing to understand their issues of importance? David Miller stated that as part of the proposals that is an option. Mr. Malinen inquired the cost of this potential study and Matt stated approximately \$300,000 to \$500,000 for the study and engineering design so the study alone would be around \$100,000. Matt further stated that the cost of the complete project will depend on the level of protection that the project defines. It could be in the millions of dollars when all is said and done. David stated that based on Matt's analysis, Black & Veatch would be the recommended firm.

Alderman Booth made the motion to negotiate a contract with Black & Veatch. Seconded by Mr. Malinen. Mr. Miller stated that the proposals provide adequate information for the selection today. Mayor Best inquired if staff was not able to negotiate a satisfactory contract with Black & Veatch, would staff come back to the committee for selection. Mr. Miller stated that it states in the proposal that if a contract cannot be successfully negotiated with the firm selected, then the committee can select the next qualified proposal. Vote all yes, none opposed. Motion carried.

Item No. 4: Project Status Update - David Miller reviewed item by item the report provided to the committee.

Item No. 5: Change Order Update - David Miller presented Final Change Order for John Nygard Retaining Wall project.

Mr. Malinen suggested that the 20 year plan be presented in the near future with the committee.

Alderman Booth made Motion to Adjourn, seconded by Doug Lay. Vote: all yes, meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.