

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

City Council Chambers

October 13, 2020 4:00 PM

Committee Members present: Councilor David A. Witham, Chair
Councilor Matt Gerding
Councilor Kenneth Vincent

Absent: Councilor Martin Dumont

Administration/Staff present: City Manager Bob Belmore
Finance Director Scott Smith
Director of Public Works Michael Bobinsky
Jonathan Slaven City Clerk

Chairman Witham called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilor Gerding moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vincent and passed 3-0 by voice vote.

SIDEWALK PLOW PURCHASE

Councilor Witham spoke about the funding mechanism recommended by the Finance Committee to purchase a new sidewalk plow. He said Public Works staff did research on three models and the Finance Committee reached a consensus to recommend the Holder model, though that Committee also wanted Public Works and Environment to provide their recommendation. Councilor Witham said that the Holder model was recommended since it is a more heavy-duty model than we presently have, it comes with necessary plow equipment and can also utilize other accessories the City has.

Councilor Vincent stated he is in favor of the Holder unit. Councilor Gerding concurs, noting the three-year warranty.

Director Bobinsky informed the committee that the third-year warranty is optional, and to include the additional year, the cost of the Holder would be \$166,000.

Director Smith indicated that the Finance Committee has recommend a Transfer Ordinance in the amount of \$130,000. The funds currently held in escrow is \$35,184, which means we would need to adjust the Transfer Ordinance.

Councilor Witham stated he will propose that amendment when under consideration by the full City Council. He also stated it would be a good idea to include additional language in the Resolution to allow the City to acquire the unit before the Transfer Ordinance is passed, to pre-order as we have allowed in the past for police cruisers.

Councilor Vincent made a motion to support a Resolution to purchase the Holder sidewalk tractor at a cost of \$166,000 including language to enable the ordering of the tractor to come prior to the passing of the Transfer Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 3-0 by voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilor Gerding mentioned his concern of seeing invasive plant species and wondered if this Committee could look into disseminating education to the public on what types of plants are considered invasive and inform the public about native species of plants that could be used. After a brief discussion, it was agreed the topic would be sent to the Conservation Committee to look into.

Councilor Vincent reported a depression in the road at 117 Blackwater Road. He said it is a heavily travelled road and wanted to bring it to staff's attention.

Councilor Vincent also inquired about installing signage at road intersections where we are seeing people that may be homeless asking for money. Councilor Gerding mentioned that the City of Manchester has signage in certain areas directing those interested where to donate to local non-profit organizations.

Councilor Witham reported that a motor vehicle accident on High Street near Washington St damaged the decorative base on a light pole and needs replacing. He also mentioned signs around the City that are bent or leaning that needs addressing. Director Bobinsky indicated the issues were already on his radar and will be addressing them.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Gerding seconded by Councilor Vincent, motion passed by voice vote 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Slaven, City Clerk