Common Council Wed, Dec 18, 2024

All Separated Items

Common Council

Wed, Dec 18, 2024 7:00PM

Mayor Jake Woodford 13:00

We have no public hearings, no special resolutions. We'll establish the order of the day. Alder Hartzheim, I'll get you. Okay.

Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 13:17

Thank you, Chair. From utilities, item number 24-1598, the water rate study consultant, and from HRIT number 24-1546, the strategic plan consultant.

Mayor Jake Woodford 13:38

Okay, any others? All right, hearing none, we'll take those up in order. Did I miss one? Oh Alder Schultz, go ahead.

Alderperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 13:53

Tablet's not working as it should. From the finance committee 24-1569, request approve relocation order for Lawe Street.

Mayor Jake Woodford 14:05

Okay. Any others? All right, hearing none, we'll take these up in the order in which they were separated. Which will bring us the item from utilities committee.

Mayor Jake Woodford 14:31

All right, this is item 24-1598, approved water rate study consultant. We have a motion and a second to approve. Right. Discussion. Alder Hartzheim.

Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 14:54

Thank you, Chair. I tried to watch this meeting online, but it didn't look like it was online. I hit refresh multiple times and did not see anything. Chair Meltzer said that there was not much discussion on this item, but I do have some questions after looking at the memo that was not included in the online information, but was handed out at that meeting. If I may please, there is \$100,000 budgeted for this which includes fees that will be charged by the Public Service Commission for the rate application. I'm wondering how much of this \$100,000 is available for these—this consultant. And then, secondarily, I'm confused about the chart saying proposal score versus total score. I'm not sure what those two items mean.

Mayor Jake Woodford 15:46

Directors. Would that be Director Ohman? Which microphone, please? All right, go ahead.

Director Jeri Ohman (Finance) 15:55

Thank you, Chair. So as far as the scoring, the proposal scores based on the proposal only. The total score then factors in the pricing component for it.

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:07

And then the question on the \$100,000 and what's available?

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Director Jeri Ohman (Finance) 16:11

Yeah, so we were estimating with the rate study itself, we would be looking at approximately \$50,000 and then we would have \$50,000 available for the PSC costs.

Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 16:27

Follow up if I may?

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:28

Alder Hartzheim, please.

Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 16:29

Thank you. So, I guess I'm just curious, what is the rationale then for the second most expensive consultant to be the chosen consultant? I expect there's something to do with the fact that they already created a waste—or a rate study for us prior. But is there anything else that we should know in that regard? I mean, I'm not always fond of going with not the lowest bidder.

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:56

Director Ohman.

Director Jeri Ohman (Finance) 16:57

Thank you, Chair. We looked at multiple factors, including what types of reports, sample reports that we could see, references that we received on the different entities, as well as work that they performed. So, we looked at all of that. That's what came up with the proposal score. And then when we factored in the different pricing, we came up—the total score indicated we went with Trilogy.

Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 17:24

Okay, thank you. That's helpful. Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 17:26

Any further discussion? Hearing none we have a motion and a second to approve. Please cast your votes. The motion passes 12 to zero. The item has been approved.

Mayor Jake Woodford 17:52

Moving on to the item from Human Resources and Information Technology Committee. This is item 24-1546, approval to hire CP2 Consulting for the city of Appleton Strategic Guide Facilitation services. We have a motion and a second to approve. We'll open the floor for discussion. Any discussion? Hearing none, Please cast your votes. All right, that motion passes 11 to one. The item has been approved.

Mayor Jake Woodford 18:41

On to the item from Finance Committee. This is item 24-1569, request to approve the relocation order for the Lawe Street reconstruction project from College Ave to Spring Street. We have a motion and a second to approve. And discussion. Alder Schultz.

Alderperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 19:04

Thank you, Mayor. I separated it out just because I—as I was reviewing the agenda tonight, I was looking through some of the action items, and as I was reviewing this particular one, I know it's a pretty significant amount of eminent domain acquisitions from property owners by the city to accomplish the Lawe Street

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reconstruction. And so, I assume there would be some, you know, some feedback from constituents, or lots of conversations, and now I understand this has been going on for probably a year now.

Alderperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 19:34

I was a little surprised that there was very little discussion at committee except for question about what we were looking at. In some cases, it's 10 to 15 feet of acquisition from the sidewalk toward the property owner's basically front door. So, I understand the nature of it, why it's necessary, and so I just separated it because I would like to ask staff what was the communication process over the course of the year, and basically, like, how did this go down? How was it received? I haven't heard anything negative from the community, so I assume everything is good, and you guys did an excellent job telling them what was up. But I just want to hear from staff, because I'm basically ignorant on the process. Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 20:14

Director Jungwirth.

Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 20:16

Thank you. Can you can you hear me?

Mayor Jake Woodford 20:18

Yeah.

Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 20:20

Being newer, I'm not exactly sure where in the process we are with the actual acquisitions, but I can speak to the, you know, the items listed in this document as a part of the relocation order. So all but two of the parcels on this entire corridor are what we call TLEs, temporary limited easements. So, they're just that—temporary in nature—and really purely needed for re-grading behind the sidewalk. The DOT requires us to obtain these as we do work under DOT grant.

Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 20:51

So as far as working with constituents goes, unfortunately, I'm not able to speak to that just because I was not involved with that process. But I did recently do one in Menasha, and it is an extensive amount of time to work to work through some of these negotiations and get these obtained. But ultimately, I think people see what the intention is for and are relatively pretty agreeable once they sit down and are explained what it is.

Alderperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 21:25

Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 21:27

Any further discussion? Hearing none, we have a motion and a second to approve. Please cast your votes. The motion passes 12 to zero. Item has been approved.