

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M. IN ROOMS 115 AND 207, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Robert J. Oris. Jr. Chairman; Paul A. Bowman, Vice-Chairman; Jeffrey Falk, Patti Flynn-Harris, Sylvia Nichols, Timothy Slocum, David Veleber.

Absent: Thomas Ruocco

Staff: Sean Kimball, Town Manager; Gina DeFilio, Deputy Finance Director; George Noewatne, PW Director, Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Executive Session, A.J. Waste contract negotiations (in Room 115)

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Mr. Veleber

MOVED that the Town Council enter Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. to include PW Director Noewatne and Town Engineer Gancarz to discuss contract negotiations.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION by Mr. Veleber; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED that the Town Council exit Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

The Town Council reconvened in Room 207 at 7:14 p.m.

4. Authorization to apply for State of Connecticut Bridge Program Grant.

Town Manager Kimball informed the Council that the Town can apply for 50% State grant funding through the DOT State Local Bridge Program.

Town Engineer Gancarz explained that the DOT inspects bridges with a greater than 20 foot span every two years. In this year's inspection of the West Johnson Bridge, a crack was found in one of the southerly beams, and this is a concern. DOT contacted the Town, and the load on the bridge was reduced to 33 tons, with the eastbound shoulder closed to traffic. There are 13 concrete beams right next to each other with cables going through them, and once tightened they are one big unit filled

with grout. To get a better idea of the problem, the pavement was taken off the bridge, and there is a big problem. The only way to solve it is to remove all the beams; abutments can stay; and the cost estimate is \$1.7M to fix the bridge.

The State DOT has a Local Bridge Program which just came back into effect. The Town can submit the grant application for a 50% reimbursement, which must be done by August 15th. Preliminary construction would begin in 2020; the project must go to referendum; there is no cost to apply for the grant; and the Town could get the 50% reimbursement.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #072618-1

RESOLUTION #072618-1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes application for the 2019 State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program grant in the amount of \$865,719.50 for the rehabilitation of the West Johnson Avenue Bridge over the Ten Mile River.

Discussion

Mr. Slocum asked about possible redesign of the bridge or if it would be the same, and the age of this bridge.

A preliminary analysis has been done, and Mr. Gancarz said it can be steel beams, the same beams or T-beams. The recommendation is the same beams. This bridge is 30 years old and Mr. Gancarz said the usual life of this type of bridge is 50 years. The current problem was unexpected.

Chairman Oris asked about the bridge being safe.

According to Mr. Gancarz, 33 tons is a safe load, and he noted there are barrels along the walkway area.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

5. Authorization to apply for a State of Connecticut grant to supplement biodiesel truck purchase.

Town Manager Kimball stated this is related to the purchase of a plow truck.

Mr. Gancarz explained the State has received money from the federal government and is going through the process of how to spend the money. There is a grant reimbursement program, with the application due by July 31st. The clean diesel engine truck could get up to 65% reimbursement of the engine and cab. It is a qualifying application and worth submitting.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Nichols

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #072618-2

RESOLUTION #072618-2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes application for the 2019 State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Diesel Emission Mitigation Program Grant for the VW NOx Mitigation Funds for Diesel Emission Reduction Projects for a 65% reimbursement on the purchase of a replacement Public Works dump truck.

Discussion

Mr. Bowman asked if this grant must be for the purchase of a public works vehicle, and if a fire truck would be a possible vehicle under this grant.

In looking at the grant application, Mr. Gancarz noted the pool of money is about \$5M. There are eight (8) categories of vehicles, and a fire truck is not in the category list.

Mr. Noewatne advised the dump truck is the same one cited in the capital plan, at a cost of \$194,313.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Ms. Flynn-Harris; seconded by Mr. Veleber.

MOVED to adjourn the special meeting at 7:31 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk