

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE AND CONSULTANT SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
120 EAST CANEY STREET
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488
Monday, November 14, 2022–6:30 p.m.**

City Manager, Joseph R. Pace, declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee and Consultant Selection Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 6:31 p.m.

Committee Members present were: Mayor, Tim Barker; Councilmember, Larry Pittman and Councilmember, Russell Machann.

Committee Member absent was: None.

City Council Member present was: Councilmember, Clifford Jackson and Councilmember, Terry Freese.

Staff members present were: City Manager, Joseph R. Pace; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez; Assistant to the Finance Director, London Davis; and Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves.

Staff member absent was: Finance Director, Joan Anandel.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider minutes from the meeting held August 22, 2022. Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was to review and consider U.S. 59/I-69 Upgrade Continuous Lighting Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves, stated to the Committee that the TxDOT Staff in the Yoakum District Office had been in contact with the City in reference to entering into a Continuous Lighting Agreement for lighting to be constructed on I-69 during the construction upgrades. She stated that TxDOT was requesting that the City power and maintain the lighting that would be installed from south of JM Eagle to just north of the future F.M. 1301 interchange. She stated that this would be an estimated total of 41 - 48' tall poles with 400-watt (equivalent) LED lighting. She stated that the construction would be financed and completed by TxDOT. She stated that the City was being requested to provide power and maintenance to the lighting once constructed. She stated that the City Staff did speak with TxDOT about the possible maintenance costs associated and per TxDOT representatives the illumination is mounted to the top of the center barrier so there is a small chance that the poles or arms would need maintenance. She stated that it would mostly be changing the bulbs and the associated traffic control and that the bulbs should last approximately ten years. She stated that the increased cost would be for the traffic control. She stated that estimates for the traffic control necessary could be in the \$2,500 - \$5,000 per day range to give access to change the bulb(s). She stated that it was currently the City Staff's recommendation that the City not execute the agreement at this time and propose to TxDOT Yoakum District to enter into discussions with them on a possible Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the maintenance of the lights to be performed by them, but the City to reimburse the costs. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to not execute the agreement at this time and propose to TxDOT Yoakum District to enter into discussions with them on a possible Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the maintenance of the lights to be performed by them, but the City to reimburse the costs. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council approving a contract for administration services for the Regional Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD) Program(s) funded and administered through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said contract. Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves, stated to the Committee that the City Council approved the establishment of a Consultant Selection Committee on September 26, 2022, and authorized the City Staff to go out for administration services for the Regional Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD) Program(s) funded and administered through the Texas General Land Office (GLO). She stated that proposals were received at City Hall on November 2, 2022. The proposals received are as follows:

1. CSRS, LLC
2. GrantWorks, Inc
3. MPACT Strategic Consulting
4. Public Management

The Committee reviewed and scored the proposals. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to award a contract for administration services for the Regional Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD) Program(s) funded and administered through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to MPACT Strategic Consulting. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.


Joseph R. Pace, City Manager