



DeKalb County Government

1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

DRAFT -Minutes

PWI-Public Works & Infrastructure Committee

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

3:30 PM

Meeting Started At: 3:30 PM

Attendees: Commissioners Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, Terry

Present 3 - Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, Robert Patrick, and Ted Terry

I. MINUTES

2023-0548 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the April 18, 2023, Public Works and Infrastructure
Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry,
that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the
following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

II. DISCUSSION

Water Billing Mediation Process

-presentation provided by CFO McNabb

-Question LCJ: Where is the request form?

McNabb: It is apart of the mediation package

Question LCJ: How do you obtain the package?

McNabb: if you request mediation you will receive this package

Request LCJ: Include package to the website and endure several keywords are in place to make sure this package is accessible to residents.

Question TT: when did the moratorium start?

McNabb: fall 2016. we started with about 4000 disputes.

Question TT: There was no mediation during the moratorium?

McNabb: correct. if someone goes through the dispute process and have questions they are offered mediation, even with the payment plans, as long as if the account is disputed. You have two years to dispute any particular bills. Additional information provided.

Question LCJ: how long between the request to the actual mediation?

McNabb: 51-81 days

Question LCJ: who is the mediator?

McNabb: they will be selected by the law department from all pool of individuals. This is at no cost to residents

Question TT: Can you expand on the two year window?

Additional information provided by CFO McNabb

Question TT: everyone on the list current?

McNabb: Correct. The two-year look back applies to the original dispute.

Question TT: How far from these original disputes go?

McNabb: As far as 2015

Question TT: if someone has entered into a 6 year payment plan but have not disputed it, that means they have agreed to the plan? They know they can dispute but just haven't?

Additional information provided by McNabb

LCJ Request: Please returned to committee to discuss the entire dispute process

Additional information provided by County Attorney

Question TT: regarding current request, some have been here for a while?

McNabb: we were waiting until we had a larger amount to move forward

Question TT: How does it cost for mediation?

Ernstes: County pays the full cost of mediation. Its roughly around \$300-\$800 depending on circumstances.

LCJ Request: Make the dispute paperwork fillable and submittable online

COO Williams: We will bring the Flowchart back to committee

Question TT: Do we provide alterative mediation plans, we used to have 7 year plans.

McNabb: I think that could be a part of our strategy. Additional information provided.

Question TT: have you filed for leans on homes?

McNabb: yes we have. My understanding its automatically a lean, we file ourselves so that it does not expire and we receive the money when the property changes hands.

Request LCJ: I want us as a committee to take a deeper dive on this - I will be sending staff questions and recommendations, including documents compilation and accessibility and discussing options of minimum amounts we will pursue.

Question TT: who send the leadership review?

McNabb: the three of us review them on the committee

Question LCJ: Who chooses the committee members? We might have to review the make-up of that process.

McNabb: myself. I don't want to do it alone. We pull all the facts and circumstances to the case. Our number one goal is to be fair to everyone

-Question TT: is there someone in the finance or watershed department the advocates for the consumer? Looking at the flowchart it looks like something someone can get trapped in and the easier option might not be the better option for them. It could be an ombudsman who can be a second set of eyes to provide a second layer of transparency from the ratepayer side

-D McNabb: we will have to check with the bond resolution how much flexibility the bondholders allow us. Additional comments provided by CFO McNabb

-LCJ: I will send you my markups; I will send information to the committee of my suggestions first so that they are in order.

-comments provided by COO Williams

III. AGENDA ITEM

Previously Heard Items

[2023-0356](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1201890 Consent Decree - Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement (CD-GSRR): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists primarily of providing gravity sewer rehabilitation and replacement via cured in place pipe (CIPP) with internal and external point repairs, as well as open cut pipe bursting. This request seeks to utilize the Engineering News Record - Construction Cost Index (ENR-CCI) to calculate and pay additional cost impacts incurred due to the current market's supply chain issues. Additionally, this request seeks to amend and utilize the existing Owners Allowance line item to pay for these additional cost impacts with existing funds. This request also seeks to increase the contract term through December 31, 2024. Lastly, using existing funds and based upon the ENR-CCI, this request seeks to address retroactive payment of increased costs for periods prior to 3rd quarter 2022. Awarded to The Renee Group, Inc. Amount Not to Exceed: \$2,141,078.00

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

-Information provided by COO Williams

Question RP: this is the first time we have use of the engineering news record cost Index?

Hayes: No this is industry standard

New Agenda Items

[2023-0318](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 22-101501 Professional Inspection Services for Public Works (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). Consists of providing inspection of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in the County. Recommend award to the responsive and responsible bidders: Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC, International Design Services, Inc., d/b/a IDS Global, and Terminus Land Surveying & Services, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,505,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson & Director Lemke

Question TT: the bid tabulation strikes me; Is this to ensure that you have the capacity to respond? Is Terminus new?

Lemke: Breaking in Terminus and their performance, additional information provided.

Question TT: They don't have capacity for all the work, and if they don't work out there will be a change order?

Lemke: Correct

[2023-0361](#) Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No.1 for Contract 1214031 Granite Rubble Stone (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Departments of Watershed Management (DWM), Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs (RPCA) and Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of the purchase of granite rubble stone used to address erosion control issues. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided sixty (60) day contract term increase and increase the contract funds and term through March 31, 2024. Awarded to Bedrock Granite Co., Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,000,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson & Director Lemke

Question TT: what is the name of the program that provides granite?

Lemke: Citizen drainage program

Question TT: this provides Rip wrap?

Lemke: I believe so

Question TT: can smaller cities piggyback on this contract?

Lemke: if they so desired I think we could have that conversation. Generally cities have their own processes

2023-0432

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 3 to Contract Nos.:1176675 and 1272165 County Street and Roadway Litter Removal (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works - Sanitation and Beautification. These contracts consist of litter removal services at 40 locations within the County. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided sixty (60) day contract term increase and increase contract funds and term through December 31, 2023. Awarded to Russell Landscape, LLC and American Eagle, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$847,936.40.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson & Director Lemke

Question TT: is this new solicitation for the same 40 locations?

Lemke: It'd start out with the initial 40 and assets from there.

Question TT: How can commissioners get involved or get issues addressed?

Lemke: Get them to us sooner rather than later

Question LCJ: do you not outline the roads previously?

Additional information provided by Director Lemke

2023-0442

Commission District(s): All

SS - Crown Narrow Aisle Counter-Balanced Forklifts, Chargers, and Batteries (Sole Source): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of purchasing forklifts, chargers, and batteries for DWM warehouse. Awarded to Crown Equipment dba Crown Lift Trucks. Amount Not To Exceed: \$153,797.87.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson

Question TT: are they electric?

Hayes: two are, the third is natural gas

2023-0449

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 7 to Contract No. 1171444 Road Widening, Sidewalks, Bike Lanes (Rockbridge Road - Allgood to Rowland Road) - PI#s 008121/0012789: for use by Public Works - Transportation (PW-T). This contract consists of the widening of Rockbridge Road from Allgood to Rowland Road to allow for the construction of sidewalks and bike lanes. This request is for additional funds due to delays to utility relocation and to extend the contract until December 31, 2023. Awarded to: E.R. Snell Contractor, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,388,754.45.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson & Director Lemke

Question TT: this is because of a delays in starting the project?

Lemke: Correct. Additional information provided

Question TT: IS it parts or more so staffing and completion of work Lemke: Correct

Question TT: Only GA Power can remove the poles?

Lemke: Correct

Question TT: a 1.3 million increase is a big jump, what changed?

Information provided by Chris Kingsbury

Question TT: what have we gotten out of the total contract cost so far?

Information provided by Chris Kingsbury

2023-0535

Commission District(s): All

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract 1223623 HDPE Pipe Liners (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of providing High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe liners. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided forty-five (45) day contract term increase as well as increase the contract amount and term through April 30, 2024. Awarded to Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$500,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided by Commissioner Cochran Johnson & Director Lemke

2023-0426

Commission District(s): All
RFP - Request for Proposals No. 22-500630 Design and Engineering Services During Construction for Snapfinger Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion - Phase 3A Project: for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of providing design and engineering services for numerous trunk sewers to address seven (7) repeat sanitary sewer overflow areas in the County. Recommend award to the highest scoring proposer: CDM Smith, Inc. Total Amount Not to Exceed \$6,273,240.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

No additional information provided

2022-2405

Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 22-101523 Pond Maintenance Services (Multiyear Contract): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D) and the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). Consists of the cutting, cleaning, spraying and repair/maintenance of stormwater retention and detention ponds. Recommend award to all bidders who are responsive and responsible: ASAP Landscape Management Group, LLC, Ed Castro Landscape, Inc., Executive Realty Solutions, Inc., KSK Landscaping, Inc. and Phillips Lawncare & Services, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,325,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

No additional information provided

[2023-0562](#)

Commission District(s): Potential for All Commission Districts
A Resolution to Create a Study Committee for the Pole Bridge
Wastewater Treatment Property for a Greater Understanding of How
to Address Environmental Justice Strategies for This Area and the
Many Tributaries That Connect DeKalb County.

**MOTION was made by Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, seconded by
Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for
deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/23/2023.
The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Information provided Commissioner Terry

*Request TT: I'm looking for better usages of land that have a more positive impact on the environment. I'd like to discuss
with Director Hayes and COO about the possibilities of the site referenced.*

Meeting Ended At: 5:09 PM

**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry,
that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried
by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Patrick, and Terry

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC