REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, GEORGIA

GOVT. CENTER - RM 100

PRESENT: Mayor Dorothy Hubbard

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Langstaff, Jr.

City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Matt Fuller, BJ Fletcher and Roger Marietta

City Manager: Sharon D. Subadan City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Hubbard called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m., and called for a moment of silence, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. She then instructed the audience on the policy to address the Commission, whether through Citizen's Comments or Speaker's Appearance Forms.

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to approve the following purchases, so onded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

1. Professional Services (State Lobbyist) Cascon Girup; Atlan GA

al anual exp. \$60,000.00

2. Bus Shelters Tolar Manufacturing Co., Inc., Corona, CA

Total exp. 510.00

3. Emergency Sewer Repair, Front Street. Boyd Co struction; Albany A

otal 49.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to approve a following Alcohomicense Applications, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion carrie and the Commissioner and voting no.

- 1. Global Spectrum, LP, d/b/a Alba y Civi Compand Amphitheater, 100 W. Oglethorpe Block I Small/Agent; ic. or, Beer a Wine Consumption
- 2. Global Spearum, ad/b/a Albany Junicipal Auditorium, 200 N. Jackson St.; J. Small/Acapt; Liquol Geer and Wine Consumption
- 3. Newton K. Packag LLC, d/b/a Br. boe's Package Store, 1102 Newton Road; C. Banks/Agen. Quo are and Wine Fackage

Mayor Pro Zent Langue Emoved supprove the following Alcohol License Application – Transfer of Owner nip, seconded a Commissioner Marietta; the motion carried 5-1 with Commissioner Hower Ling no.

1. See Mart Inc., b/a Foodsmart, 1605 Gillionville Road, O. Riaz/ Agent; Beer age; Transt of Ownership from H. Patel

APPOINTMENTS

1. One appointment to Community Development Council (CDC) to fill unexpired term ending June 2019 (Business Member)

The Clerk advised that Latasha Edwards submitted her letter of interest and resume.

Commissioner Howard moved to appoint Ms. Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Fuller; the motion unanimously carried.

2. Mayor and Commission appointments to City Tree Board for two-year term ending August 2020

The Clerk advised that Jeff Hoopes, Richard Spencer, Carlos Phillips, Richard Foreman, Chuck Norvell and Jimmy Lindsay asked to be considered for reappointment. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to reappoint all, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

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RESOLUTIONS

Commissioner Marietta moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

A RESOLUTION NO. 18-R149

Authorizing Advanced Metering Infrastructure/LED Streetlights; Authorizing the City Manager to contract with Sensus, Raleigh, NC, to provide an Advanced Metering Infrastructure System to be installed throughout the city for an estimated Capital Expenditure of \$20.8 million; Authorizing the City Manager to contract with Metropower, Albany, GA, to upgrade the streetlights to LED throughout the city for an estimated expenditure of \$6.5 million; and authorizing City Manager and Finance Director to engage the City's financial adviser, Davenport & Company, to seek and secure the most cost effective means of funding the project

Detailed discussion followed with Commissioner Marietta thanking You Gosa, reporter with *The Albany Herald*, for his article regarding LED lights. He said that Y feet treet lights are worthwhile and needed, especially after the 2017 storm damage, adding that \(\frac{1}{2} \) support the project.

Commissioner Fletcher commented on rumors circulating about the meters and she and Ms. Subadan spoke in length yesterday and asked Ms. Sub an for comments. Ms. Suc n explained the implementation process and pilot program, which un first, dding that interna des will be onet rollout in which three put in place. She advised that part of the implementation different meters will be tested and a subsection of utility cus rs (approx. 3000) will be selected for a pilot program. The success of the pilot program will deter how the City goes forward. She mplemented in-house, with said that business rules i.e. cut-on/cut-offs/ rnections, etc. will KTI helping with this process.

of so billing software will be forged Commissioner Fuller asked if the implementation simultaneously. Ms. Subada oftware h already been bid and will come plained that bill Il take some time to implement, with billing back at the next meeting. the process w software being first, si it will be sier to implement. She advised that it would not be ideal for AMI and street, this taking some time; even ordering hardware software port on is a SPLOST funded project, which has both to happen at the san me, wit takes months. She added the been underway f y on the admin side. The expectation is that the vo years; the Commission will be approving it at a later meeting. There billing piec ven th e first pilot meter. astallin is a lot g work to do be

Yvette Fie Central Service Director, interjected that she wanted the Commission to be aware that the project management part, value being in the budget and included in the presentation, has not been identified, but it was be Katam (KTI) in the amount of \$250,000. She stressed that approval of the whole AMI project. Sludes a proval of the project management.

Mayor Pro Tem Langsta stated that a copy of the resolution was not in his packet, with Ms. Subadan advising that it was online in Novus.

In reply to Commissioner Marietta, Ms. Fields advised that the project manager is KTI.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff discussed the resolution, estimated cost for AMI (\$20.8 million) and suggested that rather than an estimated cost, the resolution should specify an amount not to exceed since the exact cost is not known. He explained that he feels there is nothing to address what happens if there are problems in the pilot phase and/or if the City is not satisfied, suggesting that there should be a provision should this prove to be the end result. He asked the number of homes that will be in the pilot program and, regarding LED's estimation of \$6.5 million, he suggested that the 'not to exceed' language be inserted in the resolution and a reference in the resolution if the pilot does not work out. He stated that he does not want the City bound to something it has second thoughts about and cannot get out of.

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Greg Johnson, Katama Tech, explained that there is no reference of a pilot program in the contract, but if there are problems they have measures in place to correct and/or to include a cancellation clause, which is discussed in negotiations; a 'not to exceed' clause can be included then. In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff, he advised that there is no negotiated contract waiting for signatures at this time; they have to wait for approval to move forward first. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff asked if the contract will come back for Commission approval and stated that he would like to see the ultimate contract before approving a \$20.0 million expenditure. Ms. Subadan explained that today staff is asking for the authority to move forward, adding that they cannot negotiate without approval and having the financial advisor engaged in this process.

Commissioner Marietta stated that he will accept the friendly amendment from Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff commented on the LED streetlights and the kelvin value with Jimmy Norman, Director of Utility Construction, explaining that kelvin is the blue lights rays. He said that the research compared higher vs. lower kelvin values, which has the potential to distract drivers. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff stated that he found some cities removing to D lights and asked what is put in place in these cities, adding that he is not comfortable with the same time.

Commissioner Howard stated that he will vote no at this time the the funds concerns. He said he spoke with Finance Director Derrick Brown yesterday and asked that Mr. Brown explain the process that was discussed to avoid borrowing money for the LED lights.

Chad Warbington signed up to speak on this matter and so there are three things in particular of concern: 1) different aged assets citywide; 2) variety of street atts citywide and the potential of having problems with AMI; 3) no need to sush today and getting ore details on paying for AMI/LED, i.e., MEAG Funds, Job Investmer Fund, use utility for the project, etc. He concluded by saying that he is for the AMI at the but is challenged. Commission to consider the funding aspect of the projects and the process.

with citiz Commissioner Fletcher said # recently along, with Stephen she was at a med the meeting was hostile, but was rather Collier, Assistant City Ma she did not fe informative. She sugg ed starting ith that group f people when implementing the pilot program. ng disci sion, discussion She commented on the h with citizens and mentioned that there are This information was made public on July 24th, in plenty problems with the lights and here are 671 current orders to fix lights; there are of time for citize and Comm ners to be city. She suggested that we need lighting in front of Cooper different is areas as in Ward 2 throughout the city. Tire, in ther ar

Mr. Warb. preciat s and understands the time and energy put into this effort; on stated that he was 'why is my bill so high'. When the City plans to spend \$20.0 however, the of the meetin million, citizens nt to know how it is going to help them with their bills and if there will be a savings. He added t it was surprise to see that the rate that was approved in January included the aizens are already paying for something that was touted as a measure to debt service; as ratepa lower rates. Moving for ard with a cost saving project, the question becomes, who benefits from the cost savings. He said he supports installing lights in those areas which are in the most need and make them the pilot program, adding that he sees no justification for installing lights in areas that were recently upgraded. Commissioner Fletcher said that the question was asked point blank 'will this have any savings on the bill' and commented on the potential benefit of an AMI meter for business owners who experience failure and problems are quickly pinpointed, reported and addressed. While it is not a perfect solution for everything, it is a start and the potential is promising and should have been looked into a long time ago.

Commissioner Howard asked Mr. Brown to address other options for funding the projects. Mr. Brown stated that in speaking with Commissioner Howard, he was unable to look at his computer for specific information, so the numbers he used were off the top of his head. He explained that, regarding the LED streetlights, he felt the City could fund them without borrowing; regarding the AMI portion, the question is 'how much could we (borrow)'? He referenced the recently adopted Financial Management Policy, which requires cash on hand to be 90 days for utility; as of today, the

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City is at 105 days. If the LED portion is paid for today, for 2019 it puts the City at 87 days, at the 90 day threshold, with the balance that day being approximately \$45.0 million. He explained that the utility turns over approximately \$13-14.0 million/month and staying within the 90 days, the \$45.0 million could be significantly reduced. He stated that the goal of staying within the policy, while maintaining the cash needed for ongoing operations, the \$20.8 million would perhaps need to be financed, adding that he would need to consult with the City's financial advisor for a recommendation on which way to proceed. The goal is to not violate the cash on hand policy and to look at the most feasible financial options. If the City needs to finance the entire project, he said he is certain we would get the best rate, adding that all variables must be kept in mind as we move forward and decide how much immediate cash outlet we are prepared to pay out. Commissioner Howard asked if the City combines the lights and AMI, the total is approximately \$27.0 million; Mr. Brown replied in the affirmative. Commissioner Howard asked if he feels comfortable that the \$6.5 million could be paid without borrowing; Mr. Brown said that he feels comfortable making that statement. He reported that the total \$27.3 million could have an estimated annual payment of approximately \$3.3 million, which possibly could be lowered to \$2.3/4 million. If the stratight part was not financed and paid for outright, the debt service could be lowered \$8-9,0 s/annually.

Mayor Hubbard asked Mr. Brown to discuss the City's debt and it re planned to be paid off. Mr. Brown stated that we look at the utility collectively when lo ing at c on hand, so even if it dips down to 87 days, based on today's information, it jump day threshold the up over th following year because of the sewer bond that will be paid off next year (\$2-2.5 ion/year); the final payment will be made on a water bond this year proximately \$1.0 million/ therefore, the utility is collectively paying off some debt. He are that wh Davenport mad eon, specifically, the utility light presentation, they felt that the City was well-positioned to fund was in a position to take on approximately \$77.0 million ot and, if the debt is only \$20.0 million, the City is looking at less than a third of the capacity h the City not wanting to max that out in the first place. Mayor Hubbard clari that the City is not d over heels in debt; Mr. Brown concurred and explained that the prin to er for the rate in was the declining demand; however, what the City has in place t port this pr ect. Some of the project will day co have to be financed, but possibly, not the entire must stayed prepared for unforeseen events that could ete its cash on h

Mayor Pro Tem Langs asked the ity's current t tal debt; Mr. Brown replied approximately \$14.0 ayor Pr Гет Langstaff million, maybe even less d if our borrowing capacity is \$60.0 e light fund; the capacity was actually \$100.0 million; Mr. Brown replied et is just in t the million, but establishing a deb erage n % it was \$77.0 million and the desire is to adhere Langstaff asked at what point the City will lose its most to the \$77. e. Mr. Brown e City would not want to do that, as it would max out our favored sed the , when the rating agency looks at the light funds capacity f the City assum $20.0 \, \mathrm{m}$ capag y's: policy for cash on hand; policies requiring the City being able to for debt, t will look at the which will enhance our interest rate when the advisor tries to get cover its deb .3 times – all the best rate. M Pro Tem ngstaff asked if we have a policy in place regarding the maximum n; Mr. rown replied in the affirmative and said he can provide the amount. debt that we will to plained that his question is based on a report about the lift stations, but Mayor Pro Tem Lang we don't have a number of that cost, and we will be putting out for bid a stormwater analysis that will advise the City what it needs to be doing citywide, which includes the CSI. While at this point In that cost, and we will be putting out for bid a stormwater analysis that we don't know those numbers, but one is expected to be ridiculously high. He suggested being prudent and avoid overextending borrowing and then asked if we have sewer in SPLOST. Mr. Brown replied in the affirmative. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff mentioned the line item in Recreation for the trails and suggested that if money is saved on the trails, maybe \$500,000, that amount could be moved over to the sewer project and put toward lift stations. Phil Roberson, Asst. City Manager, explained that the City Attorney would have to speak to that because on the referendum one was under recreation and the other was under sewer. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff mentioned a fixed amount for each category and asked if a project came in lower than estimated on the SPLOST referendum, the balance could be moved to another project. Mr. Davis advised that if a project is completed, the balance of any funds are allowed to be moved to another project on the ballot. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff mentioned that funds allocated for sewers in SPLOST are not enough to complete all of the projects. Mr. Roberson agreed, adding that those funds were set aside to help finance the debt service on the GEFA loan. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff asked Mr. Brown if he had ascertained the REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, GEORGIA GOVT. CENTER – RM 100

maximum debt the City is allowed to assume. Mr. Brown replied that the policy sets the City's percentage at 1.75% and the general fund is currently at .1%; adding that the ADICA bond (\$3,330,000/annually) as the only debt supported by the general fund; TAD is bringing in \$315,000. With the brewery now downtown, he explained that the TAD should pay its full debt on its own this year. He reiterated that the City maximum debt allowance is 1.75%, which is currently .1%. Mayor Pro Tem mentioned notice of state/federal grant applications with required city matching and asked to ensure that the matching funds are available in the event the City is awarded those grants.

Commissioner Fuller stated that today's discussion focused on the exact financing of the project, which has not yet been determined and feedback from citizens once the streetlights are in operation. He said that at that point, the City will know if the project is worthy of moving forward; he recommended moving forward with the pilot program, with the potential to pay cash and agree to discuss financing further and that we agree today to not borrow the entire amount, but agree that there will be discussion – maybe put down 20% and finance 80%, or whatever amount, by reaching consensus.

Mr. Norman clarified that the pilot is a testing phase; the product has n selected and has a proven track record that has been tested and approved worldwide; he brie sed the implementation process and issues with current meter systems. The request today to get the project off is appro the ground and running. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Lar t he is not referring he advised to the billing software, which is a different and separate tware; he is referring oftware that runs CIO Steven Carter stated to the AMI network, which collects data from the meters projects happen to be running concurrently, but haven aring on ach other. As sta Subadan, he explained the utility billing software required me or not the City moves ne of the 'reads' from the AMI forward with the second part of AMI, adding that every mon project, will be fed into the billing software to bill customers s the only connection between the two. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Langs be said that the rol of the billing software will happen prior to the test program. The intent i sion to the Commission forward, bring for approval to initiate negotiations with a ven Pro Tem La gstaff asked if the AMI test or. Iv program was unsuccessful, the City would still oftware; Mr. Carter agreed; adding AMI. Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff d regardless of that a new billing system is p ecision at inderstanding that the confract now under consideration, does mentioned LED, stating t not address undergroup problems. r. Norman ad sed that underground problems were addressed lving been bid In response to Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff, through SPLOST funding ith one stal in the \$3-4.0 million range. Mayor Pro Central Services Director Y id that bids Tem Langstaff oned that are sum the lift station assessment and estimate, with a eed to prioritize projects especially since the lift stations are in possible \$1 e tag; need of oment, he stated that his vote would be to table this until the mediate attend At thi ough he supports the City's need to go to AMI, as well as ession and set p ties; ev he doe not want to rush and spend money on one thing when the LED, for us reason, he s need is great another.

Mayor Hubbard as Mr. Br. Vn if the City has access to storm mitigation funds that could help with the underground fact acture for utility. Mr. Brown replied that he remembers at the last meeting Paul Forgey, Pl. ming Director, spoke of a grant application, with funds being put in SPLOST VII to address underground issues. Bids came in at \$3-4.0 million, as Ms. Fields stated, with \$6.0 million being set aside in SPLOST VII.

In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff on whether the AMI/LED bids are time sensitive, Ms. Fields replied that typically, bids are good for 60 days, and the City has had these bids for a while. Mayor Hubbard asked if we have 30-45 days. Asst. City Manager Stephen Collier interjected that the City would go back to the contractor and asked for the additional time. Mr. Roberson advised that there are two analyses coming back, in addition to the CSO, with the first one being the 10-11 critical lift stations on the river. He then asked Mr. Brown to address whether or not the Sanitary Sewer fund has the ability to cover debt/expenses associated with the lift stations on the river and how it comports with the current discussion. Mr. Brown again explained the sewer debt service that will be paid, adding that with the \$2.7 million freed up it will be able to support an approximate \$33.6 million bond issuance. The sewer fund has approximately \$12.0 million at this time; therefore, he said his level of comfort is high and that if we have sewer issues that had to be financed tomorrow,

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the City would be able to support this expense. If the concern is approving \$27.0 million today and having to spend \$15.0 million next month, that would not be a problem and would not put the City in a financial bind/crisis. Mr. Roberson mentioned the tornadoes of 2017 and the loss of power, in which Georgia Power was equipped to disseminate information to customers, as well as reinstate power so much more efficiently. He added that the City is dealing with more frequent outages than ever before and, while AMI will not solve outages for critical infrastructure, it will be helpful in diagnosing where problems are located.

Commissioner Fletcher mentioned the City's infrastructure problems with lighting, utilities and underground; however, we have a team which analyzed those problems and made recommendations to correct them. She suggested that, at this moment, a lot of frustration will be felt if the Commission tables this matter, adding that even if the City has to borrow \$44.0 million, the Finance Director has assured us that it is feasible.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff stated that he is more sold on AMI, because of need, than he is on the LED, which he sees as more of a luxury. He mentioned that only the he as, not the poles will be replaced on streetlights, adding that he sees no justification for taking t perfectly good bulbs, which were recently put in, and replacing them with LED bulbs. The ar n be made – why doesn't the City do what is absolutely necessary first; do LED's in place. hard-hit torms. In response to comments made by Mr. Roberson, Mr. Norman stated that I titive failures already occurring on Westover, explaining that high-pressure sodium lamps la only two years. He ed that maintenance is an issue with the high-pressure sodium imps; the City switched to in the early '80's and it has been a constant battle since installing to He bri fly discussed the LED's.

Commissioner Marietta stated that a motion has been made and conded, with a friendly amendment, which he accepted: the 'not to be separately approved. He asked to call the qt's.

Commissioner Fuller asked if the pilot program than on the cost of setting up the infrastructure, will there 2000 meter in the ohnson explained that it is not all phase. M cture will include a trial piece as well; the vast that much front-loaded; the cation infrast majority of the money or meters le added that e software system would be the front-loaded piece of it, with meters b nental piece of total; generally the test phase is an inci approximately \$1-1.5 million

In response J. Conn. The per Holland, Ms. Fields said that they have had estimates for the AMI since January the June 13 bit. LED to good for 60 days and it is a total package. She suggested that both thave to be done at the Chandle be in a better position to do both at the same time.

Mayor Hubb, advised that the maker of the motion accepted the friendly amendment.

Commissioner a per clarified a friendly amendment to say that the Commission approves the City Manager to move a parad with discussion to negotiate a contract that will come back for the Commission to approach a period to exceed, according to the resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the motion to animously carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 18-R150

Authorizing submission of application for a 2018-2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Formula Grant (JAG); authorizing execution of Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between the City of Albany and Dougherty County.

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

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Requesting the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission to review and make recommendation to the City Commission re: revision to the City's Solar Power Regulations

Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff moved to table the following resolution until the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Howard; the motion failed 2-4 with Mayor Hubbard and Commissioners Fuller, Fletcher, Marietta voting no.

Commissioner Fuller moved to keep the Thronateeska section intact as it currently is with the concrete and brick pavers, review other cost savings through further value engineering while working with residents and business owners to discuss working around trees, signage, etc. as feasibly as possible, seconded by Commissioner Marietta; the motion carried 4-2 with Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff and Commissioner Howard voting no.

A RESOLUTION NO. 18-R152

Authorizing use of SPLOST VII funds for Downtown Connector Trail

Commissioner Marietta moved to adopt the following resolution, econdec Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff; the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION 2. 18-R153

Authorizing use of SPLOST VI funds for Westover Blvd. Gillie vide Rd. for traffic signals/street improvements.

At 11:58 a.m., Mayor Hubbard called for a prion to extend the making beyond 12 noon in order to go into Executive Session; Mayor Pro Tem 1 ing. Tso moved, second by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Fuller moved to approve a 60-day me atorium of temolitions in the Historic District, seconded by Mayor Pro Ten La. off; the motion unanimously carried.

At 12:00 pm Mayor Pro Langs of moved to entheir to Executive Session to discuss property acquisition and disposition, and Commission & Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried as follows:

V rd I yes
V rd II yes
W III yes
Ward yes
Ward V yes
Ward VI absent
Mayor es

At 1:05 p.m. Commissioner Howard moved to exit executive session, seconded by Commissioner Fuller; the motion unanimously carried as follows:

Ward I yes
Ward II yes
Ward III yes
Ward IV absent
Ward V yes
Ward VI absent
Mayor yes

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

MAYOR

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ATTEST

CIENT OF EDIT

CITY CLERK

