

Council Work Session

December 15, 2020

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 5:04pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Wright.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Harley.

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Edward Armijo and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Public Comments

None

Old Business

Award of Bid for Grant Administration for 2021 CHIP Grant: Councilman Evans recognized City Accountant Harrison. Mrs. Harrison provided update and a copy of the procurement plan along with the scoring sheet and bids that were accepted which are included in packet for review. The evaluation sheet, the criteria that is outlined and used to score grant experience, the organization level of work proposed, similar project cost and past experience. Gilbert and Associates and Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. both submitted proposals. City Accountant Harrison and Director of Marketing and Economic Development Hogan were the scorers. Through evaluation of their statement of qualifications, found that Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. was more affordable, qualified, and had greater capacity. Recommendation to proceed with Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. The cost for this FY is \$1500 to Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. and \$250 to DCA for our application fee. In FY24 we will need to budget \$16,000 or 4% of the grant for Grant Administration services. Seeking approval tonight to award the bid to Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc.

The Chip Grant is a community home investment program. The grant funds will be used for housing for qualified low-income housing rehab in Centerville. Money would be lent to the home owners to bring their home up to code. The grant administrator would help define the low-income areas and, once approved, a determination would be made as to what needs to be done to the home. This information would be provided for contractors to bid on. The loan could be forgiven after 4-5 years.

Motion made by Councilman Evans to award bid to Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. and authorize Mayor Harley to sign documents necessary to move forward; seconded by Councilman Armijo.

Councilman Evans asked if the grant requires a match. The Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. fee is in the range of \$12,000-\$16,000. Inquiring about the process of scoring and selecting Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. Mrs. Harrison explained due to the high score and their experience, Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. was chosen. Councilman Wright also stated that Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc have a lot more experience; they are a company located in Americus. Have done jobs in Perry and Warner Robins.

Councilman Armijo asked if we have identified any properties. Councilman Wright reported the housing team has some that they would like to approach and also there is a time frame that this would be done. Mrs. Harrison stated the homeowner has to apply for the grant and stay 5 years at the home. There have been some areas in the city that have been identified. Councilman Wright stated there is a variable in the process, homeowner has to apply and agree to the terms.

City Attorney Tydings stated the city does not choose the project the homeowner has to work within the scope of the agreement.

Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried. A copy of the CHIP Grant Procurement attached and made part of official minutes.

#### New Business

Houston County Sheriff and Centerville Memorandum of Understanding: Councilman Andrews stated the process is ongoing in the search for a Police Chief. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve Memorandum of Understanding-continuation of agreement with Sheriff's Department that we have on the table currently and authorize Mayor Harley as signatory; seconded by Councilman Evans. Councilman Wright asked if this MOU is identical to the first one. Mrs. Tydings confirmed. Approval of a new Memorandum will extend services additional 90 days. Mayor Harley called for the question. Motion carried.

Update / Discussion Trellis Walk Project: Councilman Wright recognized Director of Operations Brumfield. Mr. Brumfield provided update on projects that have already been approved and pending. Trellis Walk is very rough and in bad condition – it has been a problem for some time. Preston Testing has provided 2 methods for the proposed work on Trellis Walk; (1) replace the road itself or (2) full depth reclamation- grind the road down and replace rock and asphalt. Full depth reclamation was chosen. Traffic can continue to flow while work is ongoing. The full depth reclamation method will be just as good as replacing the road itself. Mayor Harley instructed Mr. Brumfield to move forward with bid documents will have after the first of the year to begin process.

Storm Water Project Carl Vinson Pkwy: Councilman Wright recognized Director of Operations Brumfield. This project has already been approved by Mayor and Council, money is budgeted in Storm Water Enterprise Fund. The 64-inch pipe that runs behind Houston County Humane Society, Allen's tree service and Centerville Recycling Centerville has failed. The retention pond does not drain properly, creating issues to due to heavy rains. Currently getting documents together to prepare for bid after the first of the year. Keep in mind these are just estimates – we will not get the real cost until we receive bids. Councilman Andrews stated this is a perfect example of why we needed a storm water utility, know we got a lot of push back about the stormwater legislation years ago causing a slight increase in water bills. One of the questions

was what are you going to do with the money. This is a clear illustration of where and how the money will be spent. Money comes from stormwater utility not the General Fund.

Fire Plug Replacement Installation: Director of Operations Brumfield stated this is a project that has been going on a while. The original 27 fire plugs that needed to be replaced are the older modes, 2-way plugs. Will be replacing them with the 5 1/2 inch outlet that will hook up to the trucks. 11 of the 27 still need to be replaced, this has been a slow process, due to manpower/staffing issues. Due to COVID-19, the City has not had the probation work crew. Hopefully will be able to get to the fire plugs in the Spring.

Councilman Armijo asked clarification re: ISO inspection, will this be in 3 years? Chief Jones confirmed the next ISO inspection will be in 2022.

Church Street Project: Councilman Wright recognized Director of Operations Brumfield. Mr. Brumfield stated this probably speaks for itself. This was a great project, ride by daily, what is left is striping, signage and the punch list, which the contractor is working on currently. The project is 95% complete. The striping takes time because the asphalt has to cure. Councilman Andrews asked about the punch list, pink paint on the sidewalks, use the pink paint to mark items that go on the punch list. Councilman Andrews recognized Lt. Sauls commented that he has noticed it has become more a speedway out there, it's a good place to go fishing. Councilman Andrews go on record here if you pull anyone of the Governing Body over you need to write them a ticket.

Center Park Project: Councilman Wright /Director of Operations Brumfield – this is a beautiful project, park is open, packed all weekend. IT Specialist Larry Whitney is finishing up some camera work. A punch list is being worked on as well as completion of landscaping on the back side. This has moved along well, project is 95% complete. Mayor Harley stated this is a wonderful project and have had a lot of comments from public and governing officials. Representative-Robert Dickey told me that this is a wonderful addition to our city.

### Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, really excited especially since this past weekend. Park is incredible, Church St project, Fire Department is going up at a blazing speed. Encouraged all to come out and take a look if you have not had the opportunity.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, reminded everyone to please go and vote. We all have election fatigue. Very important election run off going on for the Senate, (2) seats are on the table. Early voting is going on now for the January 5 runoff election. Encouraged all to go out and vote.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, Councilman Evans, since this is the last council meeting of the year. Wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Enjoy the time you spend with your families.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, COVID-19 vaccinations are out and being offered in different places. Encouraged all to go out and take advantage. Flu shots are also out. Please take advantage. This is all preventive. Also have been to the park, get out and walk, people having a blast out there, encourage all to come out. Wonderful opportunity to get out and get some fresh air.

Mayor Harley, COVID vaccinations - have not determined the time when they will be available. Has taken the Flu shot, shingles, and pneumonia shot. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Executive Session-Personnel Matters: Councilman Andrews motion to enter into executive session at 5:34pm; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Mayor and Council reconvened at 7:36pm.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion to adopt by Councilman Wright; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried. Affidavit executed by Mayor Harley and notarized by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield. Affidavit and Resolution attached and made part of official minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

---

Mayor John R. Harley

---

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

---

Date