



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Approval of Contract/Professional Services Meeting

Roll Call: Council President O'Connell

Present: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Resolutions for Final Passage:

[15-1105](#)

R155

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Diefenderfer Electrical Contractors in the amount of \$1,603.92 for testing and documenting the existing Fiber Optic network in City Hall – 8 hrs – one quote as required for services under \$4,000

Attachments: [R155 Request for Council Approval - Orlando Diefenderfer - Fiber Testing 9-21-16](#)
[Request for Council Approval - Orlando Diefenderfer - Fiber Testing 9-21-16](#)

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that this is to test the existing fiber optic network within City Hall. We do have Mr. Schafer here to answer any questions.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Mr. Schafer what will they do. What is their mission.

Mr. Jason Schafer stated that they are having a through put problem on one of our floors so we are going to bring them in. When we brought them in initially for the assessment they did identify other issues.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions from my colleague or the public.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if they are going to tell us what's wrong and the city will fix it.

Mr. Jason Schafer stated that they will tell us what's wrong and we have extra fiber that is built in. Each fiber run has additional strands and they will identify the ones that are dead or unusable.

Mr. Glen Hunsicker, 844 S. 11th Street, asked if the \$1,600 one floor. Are

we going to test the whole building or what?

Mr. Jason Schafer stated yes, we are going to test all of them. We will document it for the future.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29321

[15-1106](#)

R156

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Dun & Bradstreet for a Vendor Insight Analysis (no costs to city)

Attachments: [R156 Request for Council Approval - Dun Bradstreet - Vendor Analysis 9-21-16](#)
[RFA - Dun Bradstreet - Vendor Analysis 9-21-16](#)

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that this particular engagement is for a vendor insight analysis. This particular company will come in and look at our vendor file to see if we have duplicate vendors, high risk vendors or social/economic status. Mr. Hartzell is spear-heading this.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked have they done this before and why no cost.

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated no. This particular vendor offers it at no cost to the city. There is software available that you can purchase specifically for vendor analysis, but it is very costly.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions from my colleagues.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if this was brought by Mr. Hartzell. This was used where he came from with other cities.

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that she can't answer that question.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is a wonderful idea as well. He likes that they are looking at the types of business and that we start documented from here on. This is well overdue.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else on Council.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she agrees with Mr. Guridy.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else from Council or the public..

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, stated since you are going to

look and give an analysis of all our files, are there any confidentiality agreements that they can't share this information, but with the city.

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that there are no official agreements. The information that will be released as part of the vendor file will be the address and general contact information.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he tends to believe that would be a good thing for the city. I think our city is doing well.

Ms. Deb Bowman stated that he bring a valid point and that is something we can look at.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else from the public.

Mr. Lou Shupe, 625 N. 6th Street, stated that he is in agreement with Lou Hershman on this. Dun and Bradstreet's willingness to do this for free as well sends alarm bells. He suggested tabling this Bill.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Shupe and asked anyone else from the public.

Mr. Robert Trotner, 1920 Whitehall Street, stated that we should table this until we get an agreement that they are not going to share this.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he sees the opposite. It thinks it would be good to get more businesses. I don't think it is a bad idea to share the information with larger companies.

Ms. Deb Bowman stated that if they were to come back, it would not come back as this contract. This is for a free analysis.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked the administration to explain to him again. Are they looking at the vendors that we deal with and letting us know the ratings, if they have been in bankruptcy and what type of business they are. He agreed with Mr. Guridy and stated that they talked about a forensic audit.

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that they asking for the vendor file which will include the vendor's name, a contact, phone number and physical mailing address. They will run it through their system and provide us with an analysis.

Mr. Tom Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, stated to Mr. Guridy that he said in his opening statement that he may be right or may be wrong. You could be wrong because Dun and Bradstreet could be telling the vendors don't deal

with Allentown because of the budget, money and all the problems we are having.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he doesn't think Dun and Bradstreet does that kind of thing.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that information is readily available now.

Ms. Deb Bowman stated that the finance department gets Right to Knows all the time on the vendors and the dollar amounts spent.

Mr. Glen Hunsicker, 844 S. 11th Street, asked the definition of vendors. Do you consider the health people that the city employs. They are going to rate and analyze this. Is SEIU a vendor? How many vendors we have in this category?

Ms. Deb Bowman stated that would be a vendor. They are a vendor as far as the benefits. She stated about 1,000.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from the public or his colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that there is a list of the Dun and Bradstreet vendor inside analysis process in our computer.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else.

Dr. David McGuire stated that this is one of those things he thought he understood. He stated that some questions were raised that resonates with him. He stated that there are some loose ends and he is not ready to vote yes, on this one.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Dr. McGuire and asked any other Council members.

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, and Roger MacLean

No: 1 - David McGuire

Enactment No: 29322

[15-1107](#)

R157

Authorization for One Year Contract with Community Champions -Third Party Management of City's Vacant Property Foreclosure Ordinance – 50/50 Revenue Share per ordinance – competitively bid, one bidder

Attachments: [R157 Request for Council Approval - Community Champions - RFP No 2016-27 9-21-16](#)
[RFP Tabulation Memo-RFP 2016-27](#)
[Request for Council Approval - Community Champions - RFP No 2016-27 9-21-16](#)

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that it was an official solicitation that was released late July. It was open on August 16th. There was only one proposer.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Strohl and asked any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Roger MacLean's asked who is doing it now. We are not doing it in-house?

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated the same company. She stated no, we are not.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else from Council.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked is that Community Champions and are they from Florida. We couldn't get anyone locally?

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated correct. She stated that this was the only proposer.

Mr. Carmen Dragotta stated yes.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anybody else on Council or comments from the public.

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, asked if it is a 50/50, it's a 50/50 share of what? What are they going to do for the \$200?

Ms. Beth Ann Strohl stated that it is the fee that is set by ordinance. The \$200 fee.

Mr. Carmen Dragotta stated that it is a \$200 registration fee. When the property goes into foreclosure, you have to register the property. They have a property manager.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Hershman and asked anyone else from the public or any further comments from my colleagues.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29323

[15-1104](#)

R158

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Barry Isett & Associates in the amount of \$3,975 for Dixon Street Dog Park Topographic and Construction Surveys - one quote as required for services under \$4,000

Attachments: [R158 Request for Council Approval - Barry Isett Associates - Dixon Street Dog Park - Surveying Services 9-21-16](#)
[Request for Council Approval - Barry Isett Associates - Dixon Street Dog Park - Surveying Services 9-21-16](#)

Ms. Beth Ann Stohl stated that the purpose of this engagement is to contract with Barry Isett & Associates for surveying services for the Dog Park and Dixon Street.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we are going to take pictures from the top and instruct a survey of where we are going to put it.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the topographic survey will note all the trees, inlets and everything on the physical property and the construction survey will stake out the area of the actual construction.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated we have a site. He stated that we can't do that ourselves.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated no. It is also with the elevations.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that there will be no building here, just a parking lot and exercise for dogs.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the parking, fences and planting and repairing area. This is Phase I.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated to Ms. Taylor that he knows she went to visit other dog parks. Did you see Hanover Township Dog Park?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated no, she saw Upper Macungie's, Hellertown's, Bethlehem, and Doylestown.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked is this a requirement by the architect.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we are working with Public Works and engineering.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it must be done, in your opinion to move on.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated yes.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that if I purchased the property and wanted to put a home there, I would have to do the same thing.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated yes, but that is not her area of expertise.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if you bought that lot, would you need the topographical survey.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that she cannot answer that question.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that he doesn't know. We do the engineer, then we get an architect then we build it.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that this is part of putting the project together.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated correct.

Dr. David McGuire asked if they really needed this. The answer is yes. Our engineering department verified what they have been pushing.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked Dr. McGuire if he owns a dog.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if anyone else on Council or the public.

Mr. Tom Hahn stated that he is so happy that Parks and Recreation is taking an active role in this because it is a dog park.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that in the dog park, only dogs can go into the dog park, no bicycles and people.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that will come. All we are talking about is the engagement of professional services for Barry & Isett to do a topographical study.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is a Capital Project the funds that are dedicated for construction.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else from the public on R158.

Mr. Kenneth Laudenslager, 721 W. Cumberland Street, stated that he is familiar with this track. He believes it is floodplain. Floodplains requires extra research.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the location of the dog park is outside of the floodplain and wetlands.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Laudenslager and asked anyone else from the public.

Yes: 5 - Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, and David McGuire

No: 2 - Ray O'Connell, and Roger MacLean

Enactment No: 29324

ADJOURNED: 6:37 PM