



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Contract Approval Meeting

Call to Order: Council President MacLean

Present: 7 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-2367](#)

R78

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Base Engineering, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for Engineering services related to design of the new electrical shed at Bucky Boyle - includes site visit, design and detail of the new building and construction documents.

Attachments: [R78 Request for Council Approval- Base Engineering- Bucky Boyle Shed](#)
[Resolution #29665](#)

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this was a quote for \$1,000 for Engineering Services. This falls into the one quote range. This was the only quote obtained.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that there is currently a metal electrical shed at Bucky Boyle Park that contains all the electrical equipment for the lights in the park. It is repeatedly broken into and vandalized and has become a increasing hazard. We want to build a cinderblock structure that would be far more vandal proof for the lighting system. We are working with the Allentown A's to see if we can provide them with an addition and some storage for them to move their equipment out from the pavilion in the park.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if this for the feasibility study or the site study.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is to build the shed. We are hoping to contract it out. The estimated cost would be about \$10,000. We would work to put the funding together.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if the Parks and Recreation Department had the manpower to do that. Is it because the Parks and Recreation Department

is extremely busy. Is it cost effective?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is a difficult question. If we had time, we could dedicate time to it. We believe in balancing it out with the vendors and prices of what Rick is getting. It is more cost effective for us to contract it out.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked where are we going to get the money.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we have a Capital Projects Fund, Capital Parks and Playground. It is rather a small sum. We will figure it out and we have the Allentown A's to help us figure it out.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that the Allentown A's used to ask the Police Athletic League for money for equipment. I don't know where they would get the money.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked is it just for the design and engineering work for the lights. He asked if the Parks Department can buy a shed at Home Depot.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is for the building to house the electrical. The issue is with vandalism. It needs to be masonry and very strong structure that would withstand the beating that it gets. It would be cinderblocks. It is for site visits and the documents.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any questions from Council of the public.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked do we have the total cost of the projects. He asked if the city ever interfaced with Northampton Community College. They do small projects. They have brick layers and electricians.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated \$10,000.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the estimated cost is between \$10,000 - \$12,000. She stated that they did reach out to them and it has not been a confirmation yet.

Mr. Tom Hahn asked why would someone vandalize an electrical box. What it is there for someone to want to break in.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that's where the lights are for the park. It controls the large lighting on the field.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is probably in the middle of the night that they

do that.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that vandalism is done very late at night or early in the morning.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we don't have issues at the other parks. I am not sure where the lights are turned on and off at Jordan Park.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions.

Mr. Robert Trotner, 1910 Bayard Street - Bethlehem, asked is it possible to build iron/metal bars around it. Would it be cheaper?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we put fencing/bars around it. We have re-enforced it and moved it. If they want to play ball and it is 1:00 - 2:00 in the morning they find a way to break in.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that the steel bars are only as strong as what they are mounted to also.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this is for \$1,000 which falls under the threshold where we are only required to receive on quote. They will give us the information to allow us to go out to get other quotes.

Mr. Robert Trotner stated that he is concerned about contracts because of the past experience.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what if you can't come up with the other \$10,000.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that she thinks it is an important project that we have to do. We have to shift priorities. We have a pocket of funds each year for improvements.

Mr. Joe McMahon stated that it is also a Risk Management issue. We are protecting the public.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions.

Mr. Lou Shupe 625 N. Sixth Street, stated that he used to play basketball late at night. Is there a better way for them to ask for permission to turn lights on. Maybe send someone out and click the switch and let them play.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that we have hours when the kids are allowed to

play on the playground. We can't have it 24 hours a day.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that these are not people that will be asking for permission. They are vandalizing the place. These are criminals.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that Ms. Taylor did point out that it is 1:00 and 2:00 in the morning. It is in the middle of the night or early in the morning.

Yes: 6 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 1 - Courtney Robinson

Enactment No: 29665

[15-2368](#)

R79

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Michael Baker, International in the amount of \$150,000 for consulting, planning and engineering services related to the completion of a master plan for land known as the Auburn Cross Trail Park – property owned by the City and the Allentown Commercial and Industrial Authority (ACIDA). The purpose is to complete the Act 2 Land Recycling Process for the property. It was competitively bid and there were 5 bids.

Attachments: [R79 Michael Baker- RFP No. 2017-32](#)
[Resolution #29666](#)

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this was done as RFP 2017-32. We did receive five proposals and the evaluation committee consisted of three voting members and five non voting members. The evaluation committee conducted technical and cost evaluations on all five proposals. We short listed it down to three proposals and then did oral interviews with the top three proposers from that and they are recommending an award Michael Baker who was the highest ranked proposer through that process.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked when you go through these bidders do you do a check or cross checks for political contributions.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that we do. The political contributions requirement falls under noncompetitive bids or anything that was noncompetitively bid so it did not go through formal bid requirement. Something that goes through a formal bid process, they are winning through a formal bid process. We utilize that piece for contracts that are just given to somebody who did not proceed or win it through a formal competitive bid process.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that the answer to this particular question would be no.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated not for this particular one because this was through the competitive process and through the evaluation process. We can definitely look at making those provisions. It can just be part of the RFP or the bid document itself.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he can't imagine that if we have a complete Engineering Department and Planning Department we have absolutely no one in that department to do this. I find that absolutely amazing.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that just keep in mind that in our Engineering department we have one licensed Engineer on the books and one land surveyor. They are very talented. Some of this work would not be able to be done. The problem is the amount of work we have already for that amount that we have in our office.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked is the issue is that we are understaff.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that when it comes to that, yes.

Mr. Joe McMahon stated from a managements perspective you never want to staff up with that many Engineers. There will be lulls in construction and design and there is going to be valleys.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked how many are we paying out over the course of a year for these different projects where we can hire one or two more certified Engineers.

Mr. Joe McMahon stated that there are different disciplines within the Engineering field. You are doing more generis engineering in-house.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions from Council or the public.

Mr. Lou Hershman stated that this is considered a Contract Approval. I read in the paper that the police contract was approve and the cost will be worth \$40,000. Since Council's contracts are for over \$40,000 when I served on City Council with Julio Guridy we approved all labor contracts. When did that stop? Would City Council has to approve this labor agreement since it is over \$40,000 which we did when I served with Julio Guridy from 2000 - 2007?

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that Council gets the Police budget and that is included in the Police Budget.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that Council always approved the contract. We

approved the last Firemen's Contract.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked wasn't that part of an arbitration as well.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he doesn't know if it went to arbitration.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he did not think so because of the minimum manpower.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it has an odd history. At one time when I first started Council I approved them and when Lee Gaumer was here they were told they had to approve them no matter what they were and then they ask why am I doing this and then they stopped approving them. Then Roy Afflebach gave Council contracts to approve and if they did not then that became a legal fight.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the problem is that we did not approve it, then they fought it and the judge said we had no standing because the Mayor actually represents the city.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Council can do an LSR.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that Council will do a Legal Service Request.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is a good idea.

Yes: 6 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 1 - Courtney Robinson

Enactment No: 29666

ADJOURNED: 6:23 PM