



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, November 13, 2020 @ 8:30 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85351897675>; ID 853 5189 7675 Dial In: (646) 876 9923

Held virtually in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public & to mitigate the spread of COVID 19

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present via audio/video

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Vice Chairperson remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Council Member Brian T Jackson, Member- unexcused

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, City Council Office Manager

Lisa Hagen, OCA

Robert Widigan, Finance

Jake Brower, Budget

Judy Kehler, Chief Strategy Officer

Joe McClure, LPD

Kitty Lipsky, Retiree

Penny Betcher, Retiree

Mark (no last name given), Retiree

Paul Colegrove, Retiree

Kristi Batholomew, Retiree

Kim Lawrence, Retiree

Colleen Baldwin, Retiree

James Aimery

Sue Myer, Retiree

Mary Hemstreet, Retiree

Sherrie Wiegman, Retiree

Sherry Hunnell, Retiree

Susan Rouse, Retiree

Sara Morrison, Retiree

Sandra Schultz, Retiree

Brian Ellis, Retiree

Judy Kehler, CSO

Council Member Spitzley

Mark Parker, Retiree

Tom Wendt, Retiree

Public Comment

Council Member Wood explained that public comment will be taken during each item, unless there were general comments at this time.

Ms. Lipsky, City Retiree spoke in frustration on what her impression of the secrecy they received in finding out about the retiree changes.

Mark (no last name given) asked Council to reconsider the Mayor's action.

Council Member Wood clarified to the public that the Committee has taken this up as more of a fact finding mission to report back to the Administration, but Council does not have the purview to address and make changes.

Ms. Betcher asked for reconsideration on any retiree healthcare changes.

Mr. Colegrove spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes.

Ms. Bartholomew spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes.

Mr. Lawrence spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes and specifically about the 2010 incentives and asked if Council could deny the recommended changes. Council Member Wood asked Mr. Smiertka if he had a legal opinion on this in relationship to the 2010 incentives. Mr. Smiertka stated he is well aware of the separation that had occurred, but did not have those responses at this time.

Ms. Baldwin spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes.

Mr. Aimery spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes.

Ms. Meyer spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes, and asked for Mayor Schor to listen to them.

Ms. Hemstreet spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes by the Administration. She noted that she has not received any paperwork on what the amounts and plans will be allowing her to make plans for her future.

Ms. Hunnell spoke in opposition to the proposed retiree healthcare changes.

Ms. Rouse asked if there are ongoing medical treatments and cases, what can the City do about it. Council Member Wood noted there are questions the Administration are working on and she will add that to the list.

Ms. Morrison asked if Council was aware of any options the retirees could collectively do if they are not able to stop the Mayor's actions. Council Member Wood stated they are not aware of anything at this time, but will continue to look at. Ms. Morrison asked if there were any Council Members who were not supporting the retirees. Council Member Wood encouraged the retirees to reach out to each individual Council Member.

Ms. Schultz spoke on her personal experience and appealed for no changes to the healthcare plans.

Mr. Ellis mentioned an ordinance on funds for the legacy costs, and asked if that was under City Charter or under an Ordinance that is enforceable. Council Member Wood stated she would add that question to the list for the City Attorney. He then spoke in opposition to the healthcare changes and noted it would be very costly. Lastly, Mr. Ellis stated he was calling for an action of no confidence of the Mayor.

Council Member Wood noted that Council Member Spitzley was listening to this meeting as well and paying close attend to all the comments.

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2020 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Discussion/Action:

Sole Source: Lansing Police Department; Action Target Inc., Bullet Traps

Mr. McClure stated the LPD uses a trap system for training and the original was installed in 1989. It can only be replaced with specific traps from the original company. They replaced the traps that were showing stress factors with the hopes they will be able to work towards a new range system.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Lansing Police Department; Michigan Law Enforcement Associates; Consultant for Procurement of Training

Mr. McClure stated this firm was the only firm in Michigan that provides the training on the narrow and specific aspect of police procurement training. The owner is a former officer and an attorney, and will meet once a month during all shift change overs. Council Member Wood asked how long the firm was under contract with the City. Mr. McClure stated they used this firm once already in FY2020 and sought a new contract for the FY 2021. Council Member Spadafore inquired into the aspects of the training and were told it is legal training, aspects of law, making sure officers are up to date on the laws in their roles, and they can ask questions they have on the law as relates to policing.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Smiertka if this consultant also works with the OCA, and Mr. Smiertka stated the OCA currently has two staff as part of the police legal counsel so he would update them on this sole source.

ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Lansing Police Department; Sundance Chevrolet, 2 Vehicles

Mr. McClure confirmed these purchases were for the undercover unit and the vehicles are chosen to be diverse and cannot be identifiable.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Lansing Police Department; KIA of Lansing; 2 Vehicles

Mr. McClure noted this sole source was similar to the previous sole source, and it is important the vehicles blend in for undercover units, also noting all these vehicle purchases are used vehicles.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Public Service Department; Engineering; C2AE Consultants on Pathway Design on Forest Road

Mr. Kilpatrick first noted the City already has federal funding for the pathway, and being that C2AE is the consultant for McLaren Hospital's site, which is near this section of the pathway, the City decided it was the best interest to work in conjunction for this pathway in that adjoining area. Council Member Wood highlighted this pathway was a scenic route, and asked if that aspect was taken into consideration. Mr. Kilpatrick acknowledged that aspect of the trail and confirmed the pathway would not be widened.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Public Service Department; Wastewater; Collcorp Inc-Ironbrook ; UV Disinfection Systems Lamps and Parts

Mr. Kilpatrick stated to the Committee that this sole source was for the replacement of the lamps.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE.

Council Member Wood asked what the life expectancy was on the lamps, and was informed there are two bays, and a number of hours, so Mr. Kilpatrick would have to get that information back to her. She was assured they were geared towards energy efficiency.

ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Public Service Department; Wastewater; Tetra Tech; SCADA Replacement; Engineering Services

Mr. Kilpatrick explained this was for the computer system that operates the controls, and based on the age they are starting to fail. To replace, Tetra Tech has been doing all the support on the SCADA, so they are recommending them to do the study and find out the plan to replace the components. Council Member Wood asked for clarification that this was with the computers, and if so if they were also utilizing the City IT department. Mr. Kilpatrick confirmed it was the computers, but this is a whole separate system, not through the City data center, therefore the City IT does not provide any support now or in the past. Because of that Council Member Wood asked about the security of the system. Mr. Kilpatrick confirmed it is completely separate from the City network and there is no outside access to it. Regarding the meters, there will be an enhanced system as pertains to security. Council Member Spadafore asked if there was any assumption at this time of the cost to replace. Mr. Kilpatrick noted it could be 100,000+, depending on what the study finds. If it appears they need to replace valves and motors it cost more. The plan is to start a multi-year CIP once they know the cost.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Sole Source: Public Service Department; Wastewater; Tetra Tech; Switchgear Replacement; Engineering Services

Mr. Kilpatrick noted there should have also been a memo the Committee should have gotten and he will forward it shortly to Council staff, on the sole source. He then explained this is at the station, transformer and power for the plan. There is a figure estimated at \$1.2 million for the replacement, but at this time the sole source is for the study. But after the study Council will be updated on if they can do a sole source or if the replacement will have to be put out to bid.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE.

Council member Wood asked if the previous two sole sources, if the City is in non-compliance with the DEQ, could there be fines. Mr. Kilpatrick stated the studies will not find issues, because the biggest issues are the electrical switch gears and will be financially covered under the enterprise funds.

ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Other

DISCUSSION- City Retiree Healthcare

Council Member Wood confirmed she has asked for additional information from the Administration, and any additional questions today will be will be added to that request.

Ms. Kehler joined the meeting. Council Member Wood asked Ms. Kehler about the packets of information for the retirees from the new company. Ms. Kehler stated she was informed that the Medicare packages should be received by 11/19/2020. Council Member Wood asked for copies of that packet to be sent to the Council Office Manager so it could be updated on the Council webpage they are maintaining. Council Member Wood then informed the public that Ms. Kehler has informed her she is still working on the analysis that was requested earlier. Council Member Wood then asked the retirees to contact her with any information on what the impact of the new changes would have on them personally. Council Member Spadafore assured the retirees that he does take unfunded liability serious because he knows that impact it has on the City services, and encouraged the unions to continue to negotiate. He regretted that Council does not have a formal roll to play in this.

For the members of the public that were not aware, Council Member Wood noted that Ms. Kehler held a discussion session on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 with union members present, and there will be more in the future. Ms. Kehler acknowledged the Council members for attending that 11/10 meeting, and there is a collaborative effort ongoing. There were ideas exchanged, processes and discussions on budget and a comprehensive approach. Ms. Kehler then noted they are looking at upcoming meetings to talk to retirees on the current budget to move forward productively. Regarding the report requested by Council Member Wood, one of the items was a current analysis, and Ms. Kehler stated she will use examples of retirements, with current plan, with the proposed plan for comparison, top health care issues and see how that impacts under the current plan and then under the proposed.

Council Member Spitzley acknowledge the opportunity to speak, was encouraged by Ms. Kehler's comments and has continued hope they can come to a resolution.

Council Member Wood noted the Council Spadafore might have to leave the meeting before it ends. At that time a quorum of the Committee will not be present, the meeting will end, but the public comments will continue.

Public Comment Continued

Mr. Parker spoke on the proposed plan and in opposition to it. He then asked the Committee to investigate where all the funds will go if there are going to be reductions.

Ms. Morrison spoke in opposition to the changes.

Mr. Wendt asked for more time to consider and adjust to the changes, asked if there would be information on applying for hardships. Lastly, Mr. Wendt asked for more time to do an analysis on what the details are and who is eligible. Council Member Wood noted that information they have was the original and the stipend was \$1,000 and part of the plant that the contracts recommended. Ms. Kehler clarified it was not really a stipend but a reimbursement account.

Council Member Wood assured the public there would continue to be discussions at future meetings, and if they have not contacted Ms. Boak to be on retiree email group, to do so.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on February 5, 2021