



MINUTES

Dr. Armando O'caña, Mayor
Jessica Ortega, Mayor Pro Tem
Ruben D. Plata, Councilman
Norie Gonzalez Garza, Councilwoman
Alberto Vela, Councilman
Gus Martinez, City Attorney
Randy Perez, City Manager

ALSO PRESENT:

Javier Hinojosa

STAFF PRESENT:

David Flores, Deputy City Manager
Aida Lerma, Deputy City Manager
Angie Vela, Finance Director
Eduardo Belmarez, Purchasing Director
Charlie Longoria, Media Relations
Alex Fajaro, Media Relations
Juan Pablo Terrazas, City Engineer
Roberto Salinas, Public Works Director
Nellie Hernandez, Asst. City Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum being present, Mayor Dr. Armando O'caña called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Authorization to engage qualified firms for professional engineering services for drainage projects

Twenty-seven professional engineering firms were approved by the City Council for the pool of engineers on Monday, July 12, 2021. Staff was seeking authorization to engage qualified firms for professional engineering services for the drainage projects:

Staff and City Manager were seeking council direction.

City Attorney Gus Martinez, stated council could deviate the recommendation from staff or the second option was to set aside staff recommendation and name the firms individually by project.

Councilman Alberto Vela moved to set aside the recommendation from staff and instead go over and vote on each individual project. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Ortega and approved unanimously 5-0.

Project Stewart A (ML06k) – vicinity between Business 83 and Griffin Parkway (495) and is broken up into two segments. Middle segment is Crown Point to the north.

Councilwoman Norie Garza asked if staff had contacted Javier Hinojosa to verify if the design would be completed within the six-month period. Mr. Hinojosa stated he would make the commitment to finalize the design within six months.

Councilman Ruben Plata asked who the committee was recommending, JP Terrazas, City Engineer stated that the committee had recommended TEDSI for Project Stewart A since they had done work in the area thus resulting in cost savings to the city.

Councilman Plata was requesting to have a clause on the contract if the projects were not completed within six months for the city to be able to recover liquidated damages.

Mayor Pro Tem Ortega stated that she was under the understanding that the projects would be bid out.

Councilman Vela move to recommend Javier Hinojosa Engineering for Project Stewart A (ML06K). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ortega and approved unanimously 5-0.

Project Gabriel (ML05b) – is in the vicinity of Inspiration Road between One Mile South and Mile 2, El Valle Subdivision.

Committee was recommending L&G Engineering for this project due to their experience with Inspiration Road expansion and currently finalizing the Mission lateral Phase III project.

Councilwoman Garza moved to recommend L&G Engineering for Project Gabriel (ML05b). Motion was seconded by Councilman Plata and denied 2-3 with Mayor O'cana, Mayor Pro Tem Ortega and Councilman Vela voting against.

Councilwoman Garza asked if there would be a third-party engineer to be overseeing the design of all of the projects. She felt that B2Z would be the firm to engage for these projects due to their expertise. Eduardo Belmarez, Deputy Asst. / Purchasing Director stated that a firm could be engaged to ensure the firms were being held accountable, met the commitments they agreed to and ensure firms were following the scope. An item for a third-party engineer could be presented at the next city council meeting.

Councilman Vela move to recommend B2Z Engineering for Project Gabriel (ML05b). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ortega and approved unanimously 5-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Ortega stepped out at 6:23 p.m.

Project Glasscock (ML06n) – from Business 83 to Griffin Parkway (495)

Councilman Vela move to recommend Izaguirre Engineering Group, LLC for Project Glasscock (ML06n). Motion was seconded by Mayor O'cana and approved 3-1 with Councilman Plata voting against.

Mayor Pro Tem Ortega rejoined the meeting at 6:25

Project Esperanza (ML02) – vicinity of Inspiration Road from the Mission Lateral to Mile 3.

Councilman Vela moved to recommend TEDSI Infrastructure Group for Project Esperanza (ML02). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ortega and approved unanimously 5-0.

Project Leandro (ML05a) – vicinity of Inspiration Road from Griffin Parkway to Mile 2. North of El Valle Subdivision.

Councilman Vela moved to recommend Hinojosa Engineering for Project Leandro (ML05a). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ortega and approved unanimously 5-0.

Project Elm (MI13b) – continuation of Stewart Road project goes from Crown Point South to Business 83.

Councilman Plata moved to recommend South Texas Infrastructure Group, LLC. for Project Elm (MI13b) Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved 3-2 with Mayor O'cana and Mayor Pro Tem Ortega voting against.

Project Tulip (ML06n) – North of Griffin Parkway which connects to the Mission Drain Ditch.

Councilwoman Garza expressed her concern of hiring a firm who the city did not have any prior knowledge of their work experience.

Mayor Pro Tem Ortega moved to recommend H.C.E. for Project Tulip (ML06n). Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved 4-1 with Councilwoman Garza voting against.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:41 p.m., Councilman Plata moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved unanimously 5-0.

Dr. Armando O'caña, Mayor

ATTEST:

Anna Carrillo, City Secretary