



Richland County Administration and Finance Committee  
June 22, 2021 –6:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting  
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29201

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Malinowski, Chair, Yvonne McBride, Overture Walker, and Jesica Mackey

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Chakisse Newton, Allison Terracio, Gretchen Barron, Derrek Pugh, Cheryl English, Michelle Onley, Tamar Black, Leonardo Brown, Synthia Williams, Ashiya Myers, Dante Roberts, John Thompson, Elizabeth McLean, Geo Price, James Hayes, Jennifer Wladischkin, Lori Thomas, Michael Maloney, Ronaldo Myers, Randy Pruitt, Sandra Hayes, Sara Scheirer, Stacey Hamm, Stephen Staley, Bill Davis, Michael Byrd, Dale Welch, Sierra Flynn, Angela Weathersby, Jani Hussain, and Dwight Hanna.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Malinowski called the meeting to order at approximately 6:04 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **Regular Session: May 25, 2021** – Mr. O. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to approve the minutes as published.

In Favor: Malinowski, O. Walker and Mackey

Not Present: McBride and J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Brown stated there were not amendments to the agenda.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker, and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

- a. **EMS - Ambulance Purchase** – Mr. Brown stated this item was approved by Council, as a result of the general obligation bond funds. This is one of the specific items that was listed under the capital improvement projects.

Mr. O. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation to approve the negotiation and award to purchase ambulances.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker, and Mackey

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Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **EMS - Fire Tanker Purchase** – Mr. Brown stated we are able to utilize CBDG (Community Block Grant) funds to purchase a fire tanker. Staff recommends approval.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the vehicle is going to Hopkins because we are utilizing CDBG funds. He noted there are other stations that also need equipment.

Mr. Byrd responded in the affirmative.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- c. **Department of Public Works - Stormwater NPDES Consultant** – Ms. Williams stated this item is for consulting services to assist with implementation of NPDES MS4 general permit. A solicitation was issued, and two proposals were submitted. Woolpert came out on top. The consultant will assist the County with water quality monitoring program, illicit discharge protection and elimination program, putting together an annual report, developing TMDL implementation plans, the storm drainage system assessment and any other stormwater program issues.

Mr. Malinowski requested to see the results of the two (2) proposals prior to this going to Council. He noted the document states the terms of service with the company ends in June 2021, but it will not get to Council until July 13<sup>th</sup>. He inquired how this will affect us.

Ms. Williams responded if it was approved, it will not affect us.

Mr. Malinowski noted there were a lot of acronyms used. There should be a description or appendix explanation. He inquired if wet weather monitoring is throughout the County or at specific sampling locations.

Ms. Williams responded there is wet weather monitoring locations throughout the County, and they are adding new locations, as well.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if there is any reason why we do not get new monitoring stations.

Ms. Williams responded some stations we want to historically monitor to keep with trends. They add new monitoring stations based off of permit requirements, or if they see a need for additional stations.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if Council and/or the public will have any input at the upcoming meeting.

Ms. Williams responded this are internal meetings to look at the current dashboard and system, and to come up with in-house and capital projects list.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the facility inspections are at the same location every year.

Ms. Williams responded they have to develop stormwater pollution prevention plans for County-owned facilities.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the municipal facility inspections are for municipalities within Richland County.

Ms. Williams responded it is County-owned facilities.

Ms. Mackey moved, seconded by Mr. O. Walker, to forward to Council with a recommendation to award the contract for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) consulting services to Woolpert.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker, and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**d. Department of Public Works - Compound Parking Lot Restoration** – Mr. Brown stated this is for parking lot restoration at the Powell Road location.

Mr. Staley stated the facility has not had many improvements in 30 – 40 years. There are a lot of large fire trucks, ambulances and 18-wheelers that come through. Over time it has worn the pavement out. Part of this is to look at having a separate entrance from Powell Road into the First Vehicle Service area, as well as giving new pavement dimensions thickness to hand the large vehicles.

Mr. Malinowski requested to get the information regarding the bids prior to this item moving to Council.

Mr. Staley responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski noted the map did not show where the second entrance will be located.

Mr. Staley responded it is not shown on the map, but it would be at the far northern/northwestern property line.

Ms. McBride inquired if the work would be done by staff or would it all be contracted out.

Mr. Staley responded that is still being determined. He believes they would likely contract most of the construction out, and help the consultant with some surveying.

Mr. O. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to forward to Council with a recommendation to award a contract for engineering services for the DPW Compound Parking Lot Restoration Project to Michael Baker International.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker, and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- e. **Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center - HVAC Maintenance** – Mr. Brown stated the contract amount is \$210,000, and the scope of service the funds apply to are listed in the packet. He noted this is for needed maintenance. Staff recommended approval.

Ms. Mackey moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning systems) Maintenance Contract at the Detention Center, in the amount of \$210,216.00. The scope package includes all services and equipment to be covered in maintenance contract.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- f. **Community Planning & Development - CDBG/CV FY21 Action Plan Substantial Amendment** – Mr. Brown stated the 2021 Action Plan had to be amended to ensure the County did not lose the funding it has. The County needs to expend 80% of the funds by the end of fiscal year 2023.

Ms. Mackey inquired about an explanation for Row cv-1 allocations and cv-3 allocations.

Ms. Scherier responded two allotments were given, which is basically their round one of Coronavirus funding, and then their round three of funding.

Ms. Mackey inquired if there was not a round two funding.

Ms. Scherier responded the County was not awarded any round two funding.

Ms. McBride inquired if this was just Coronavirus funding.

Ms. Scherier responded in the affirmative, but since this is CDBG funding, it triggered a substantial amendment to the existing budget. When HUD injects money in the middle of a fiscal year they require us to amend the prior year's action plan.

Mr. O. Walker moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the substantial amendment to FY20-21 Annual Action Plan budget and projects for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) federal funds.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- g. **Community Planning & Development - 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan** – Mr. Brown noted the County is required to submit its Annual Action Plan to HUD at least 45 days before the start of its program year. This would make the submission deadline August 16, 2021. Staff is recommending the projects for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and HOME Investment

Partnership federal funds, associated with the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan be approved.

Ms. Mackey inquired about the public hearing after Council's approval.

Ms. Scherier responded they would typically allow 30 days for public comment, and then a public hearing, in order to give the public a chance to comment on the plans for these funds. If we wait until after the July 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, we would not meet the August 16<sup>th</sup> submission date.

Ms. Mackey stated, for clarification, we are not having public hearing.

Ms. Scherier responded we have to have a public hearing, according to HUD requirements. Staff needs permission to start the public comment after the committee meeting, instead waiting until after the Council meeting.

Ms. Mackey stated, after the committee meeting, staff will begin the public comment period. Will the public comment period serve as the public hearing?

Ms. Scherier responded staff provides a 30-day window for citizens to submit their comments. At the conclusion on those 30 days, we hold a public hearing in the event someone has not previously submitted a comment.

Ms. Mackey inquired if the plan was to have the public hearing in-person or via Zoom.

Ms. Scherier responded it will be via Zoom.

Mr. Malinowski noted staff is requesting to be granted permission to allow for public comment after the committee meeting. He inquired, when has a committee ever had the power to usurp Council to approve anything?

Ms. McLean responded they would need Council approval to move forward.

Ms. McBride inquired if this was for a new grant.

Ms. Scherier responded it is for FY21-22, and if they do not start the process before the July 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting they might lose out on all the funding.

Ms. McBride inquired about the amount of funding.

Ms. Scherier responded the total amount for CDBG is \$1,670,479 and for HOME it is \$744,108. She noted typically this would have been done earlier in the year, but she is new to the County and unfortunately this has come down to the wire.

Ms. McBride requested a full report be sent to Council regarding the expenditures and funding for all the different programs in Community Development.

Mr. Livingston stated his concern is meeting the deadline to receive the funds.

Mr. Brown noted staff would only have 4 days to provide a document to HUD if they have to wait until the July 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. This might not be enough time to compile the amount of information needed to be approved by HUD.

Mr. Malinowski stated the Chair might need to call a Special Called meeting.

Mr. Livingston stated it was his intent to call a Special Called meeting, so the County would not lose out on the funds.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about Council's involvement in the public hearing.

Ms. Mackey responded there needs to be a public hearing, but it did not have to be held by Council.

Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the FY21-22 Annual Action Plan budget and projects for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) federal funds.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker, and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- h. Community Planning & Development – Saint Bernard Project** – Mr. Brown noted this deals with our Owner-Occupied Rebuilds and Rehabilitation services. Staff is requesting a contract to be awarded related to this project.

Ms. McBride inquired if this was the entity that helped repair homes damaged by the flood.

Ms. Scherier responded that entity is Tetra Tech, which is different than this particular company.

Ms. McBride inquired about the differences between the two companies.

Ms. Scherier responded Tetra Tech was awarded the CDBG-DR contract, but these are done through regular CDBG funding. They are two different funding sources and have two different requirements.

Mr. Malinowski inquired what the company is doing for Richland County.

Ms. Scherier responded they are taking over the rebuild and rehabilitation services the County would typically take care of. Due to the pandemic, staffing, and a myriad of different reasons, the funds have yet to be expended, so it was decided to outsource to help the citizens in a timelier manner.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if there is a list of homes that will be rehabilitated.

Ms. Scherier responded she did not have a list.

Mr. Malinowski inquired when we would get a list.

Ms. Scherier responded she would get a list as soon as they get approval.

Mr. Malinowski noted they would pay over \$700,000, and then have them tell the County what they are going to do with the money.

Ms. Scherier responded the company will be responsible for identifying which homeowners will be funded. The County is responsible for complete oversight. The company will have to submit draw requests or expenses to the County.

Ms. McBride inquired if there a status report that is provided to the federal government. Initially, she thought there was a steering committee, with external participants, which gave oversight to this program.

Ms. Scherier responded not to her knowledge.

Mr. Brown noted HUD does virtual monitoring of the County's programs. One of the areas we have to address is timeliness of expenditure of funds, and to pay more attention to the CDBG funds. These are the areas we are actively trying to resolve.

Ms. Mackey moved, seconded by Mr. O. Walker, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the Professional Service Contract between Richland County Government and the St. Bernard Project, Inc. for owner-occupied Rebuild and Rehabilitation services.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, O. Walker and Mackey

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ITEMS PENDING ANALYSIS: NO ACTION REQUIRED**

- a. **Request from Chief Magistrate – Bond Court Consolidation** – No action taken.
- b. **I move that Richland County Council direct the County Administrator and his staff to conduct an equity and inclusive assessment of Richland County Administrative policies and services; and provide recommendations for a comprehensive approach to advancing equity for people of color, women and others who have been historically under- served, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent inequality. By advancing equity across Richland County Government, we can create opportunities for the improvement of businesses, communities and individuals that have been historically under-served, which will benefit all of Richland County. Appropriate assessments will better equip Richland County to develop policies and programs that deliver resources and benefits equitably to all. [McBride]** – No action taken.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00PM.