



Parish of Ascension

Office of Finance

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 7, 2023 - 5:30 PM

ASCENSION PARISH COURTHOUSE
607 EAST WORTHEY ROAD
GONZALES, LOUISIANA 70737

MINUTES

- (1) **Call To Order / Invocation and Pledge** - The meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm by Chairman Michael Mason. Councilman Joel Robert led the Committee in the invocation and pledge.
- (2) **Roll Call** - All members were present with the exception of Councilman Corey Orgeron, Councilman Chase Melancon, Councilman Alvin Thomas, Councilman John Cagnolatti and Councilman Travis Turner.
- (3) **Chair's Additions** - There were no additions to the agenda.
- (4) **Public Comment** - Chairman Mason announced that anyone wishing to speak should sign in now.
- (5) **GENERAL BUSINESS**
 - a. **Ascension Economic Development to introduce Project Viper, Clean Hydrogen Works, LA-1, LLC dba Ascension Clean Energy, for participation in the ITEP under the Post-Executive Order 2018 Rules** - Kate MacArthur, President & CEO of Ascension Economic Development along with a representative of Ascension Clean Energy spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion passed with no objection.
 - b. **Ascension Economic Development to introduce Project Point, Freepoint Eco-Systems Baton Rouge Recycling, LLC, for participation in the ITEP under the Post-Executive Order 2018 Rules** - Kate MacArthur, President & CEO of Ascension Economic Development Corporation along with a representative of Freepoint Eco-Systems Baton Rouge Recycling, LLC spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron

Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

- c. **Discussion and recommendation of action on the notice of non-compliance for contracts #20170070-ITE and #20170234-ITE, Mauser USA, LLC and Talon Industrial, LLC** - Kate MacArthur, President and CEO of Ascension Economic Development Corporation spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to impose the previously recommended 11% penalty and to forward to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion passed with no objection.
- d. **Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between Ascension Economic Development Corporation, Industrial Development Board and Ascension Parish Government. The Industrial Development Board collects application fees and administrative charges and fees on a regular basis with respect to its authorized activities and wishes to use such money to promote economic development efforts directly to the AEDC to be used for budgetary purposes and further economic development activities. \$40,000.00 is to be kept in reserve for future needs** - Kate MacArthur, President and CEO of Ascension Economic Development Corporation spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.
- e. **Approval of request to increase Level II (Administration) dollar amount threshold for the settlement of liability and automobile claims from \$10,000.00 to \$25,000.00** – Patrick Goldsmith, Chief Financial Officer spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.
- f. **Consideration to grant variance for sewer development fee for Rivermark 185 in Ascension Commerce Center** - Bill Dawson, Utilities Director and a representative of Quality Engineers spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.
- g. **Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with National Water Infrastructure, LLC to supply certain sewage treatment services to Renaissance Treatment Plant, to add an additional amount of \$3,375.21 for 2022 and a renewal amount of \$88,000.00 for 2023** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion passed with no objection.
- h. **Approval of the Certificate of Substantial Completion - Kennedy Mechanical Services, LLC for the Lamar Dixon Expo Center Commissary AC Replacement** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dal Waguespack. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.
- i. **Approval of Site Sponsorship Agreement with Gerry Lane Chevrolet and the Parish of Ascension d/b/a Lamar Dixon Expo Center** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion passed with no objection.

- j. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Legal Services Contract with Butler Snow, LLP to include additional scope of work, Ascension Parish Belle Sevanne Infrastructure District for an additional amount of \$25,000.00. The new contract not to exceed amount is \$60,000.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion passed with no objection.
- k. **Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Ascension Parish Government and the Ascension Parks Foundation for the purpose of operation and maintenance of recreational programs and activities throughout Ascension Parish** - Michael King, Recreation Director along with a representative of Ascension Parks Foundation spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.
- l. **Approval of Amendment #13 to the Professional Services Contract with All South Consulting Engineers for Grants Management and Disaster Recovery Project Management Activities to extend the contract term through November 30, 2023, and to increase the total contract amount by an additional \$345,000.00 for a total contract amount of \$1,476,100.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.
- m. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Master Services Agreement with Corporate Mechanical Contractors, Inc., for HVAC Maintenance and Repair in Parish Facilities to increase the total budget amount for these services by an additional \$150,000.00 for a new total budget amount of \$350,000.00. This budget amount is being shared between two (2) companies** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion passed with no objection.
- n. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Master Services Agreement with Gallo Mechanical Services, LLC for HVAC Maintenance and Repair in Parish Facilities to increase the total budget amount for these services by an additional \$150,000.00 for a new total budget amount of \$350,000.00. This budget amount is being shared between two (2) companies** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion passed with no objection.
- o. **Approval of Contract between Ascension Parish and Hendrick Construction, Inc., for the roundabout at PR 929 & Parker Roads, and for approval of the Parish President to execute this contract. LADOTD did advertise for, receive and accept a bid from the contractor for work on the construction project** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dal Waguespack. The motion passed with no objection.
- p. **Approval of the Certificate of Substantial Completion - Material Resource, Inc., for Asphaltic Concrete Pavement Preservation - Master Contract** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

- q. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Capital Area Human Services District (CAHSD) to renew and extend the original agreement for an additional year. The Parish shall reimburse CAHSD \$4,345.83 per month, which is one half of the monthly rental rate of \$8,691.66 and one half of the monthly utility costs** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.
- r. **Contract Report of all Contracts/Agreements entered into in the month of February 2023** - Finance Chairman Michael Mason asked that the Committee members review the contract report and contact Legal or Finance with any questions.

(6) FINANCE REPORTS

- a. **Financial Update - Open Finance at**
<https://ascensionparishla.finance.socrata.com/#!/dashboard> - Chairman Mason advised that Open Finance is available for viewing at the URL listed and Finance can be contacted with any questions.

- (7) Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm on a motion by Councilman Joel Robert, seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert.