Parish of Ascension

Office of Finance

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 10, 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 5:30 pm by Chairman Michael Mason. Councilman John Cagnolatti led the Committee in the invocation and pledge.

(2) **Roll Call -** All members were present with the exception of Councilman Alvin Thomas, Councilman Joel Robert, Councilman Travis Turner, Councilman Corey Orgeron and Councilman Chase Melancon.

(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. **Approval of Ordinance to accept the donation of property owned by Palo Alto Incorporated and The McCall Company, LLC for the use of fire services by Fire District No. 2** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dal Waguespack. The motion passed with no objection.

b. **Approval of Amendment #2 to the Master Contract for Professional Services between Ascension Parish Government and Mougeot Architecture, LLC for Ascension Parish Fire District #1 - Substation #41 Renovations, for an extension of the contract through January 31, 2024. This amendment does not affect contract price** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.

c. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with National Water Infrastructure Services, LLC for an additional amount of $70,000.00. The total contract amount is $994,000.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

d. **Approval of the Professional Selection Committee's recommendation to select Del-Con, LLC for the RFP - Mechanical Services: West Ascension Fire Hydrant Repair/Replacement project to enter into a service contract not to exceed $50,000.00 to provide construction/fire hydrant services on an as needed basis and on emergency callouts** – Bill Dawson, Utilities Director spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion passed with no objection.

e. **Approval to accept the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant (SHSP) in the amount of $69,012.02 and to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to sign and execute all documents pertaining to this application and/or Dawn Caballero, Interim CFO for financial documents** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

f. **Approval to accept the FY 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of $56,438.85 and to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to sign and execute all documents pertaining to this application and/or Dawn Caballero, Interim CFO for financial documents** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

g. **To amend Exhibit A on the resolution adopted on August 4, 2022 to update the recreation items regarding spending of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds** - Ricky Compton, Director of Planning and Facilities Management 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.

h. **Approval of Change Order #1 - R.J. Daigle and Sons Contracting, Inc., for Task Order 3 of the 2020 Asphaltic Concrete Reconstruction and Overlay Improvements to remove two (2) roads from their responsibility for overlay/reconstruction, which reduces the contract amount by $186,455.42. Total Contract Amount is $1,073,180.03** - Daniel Helms, Chief Transportation Engineer spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

i. **Approval of Agreement with DOTD for the Local Road Striping and Signing (Ascension) Local Road Safety Program, State Project No. H015011, and approval for Parish President Clint Cointment to execute the Agreement** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

j. **Approval of the renewal of the Master Contract for Professional Services between Ascension Parish Government and The Beta Group Engineering and Construction Services, LLC, for geotechnical testing. Budget amount of $300,000.00 to be shared with another provider contracted to provide these services on a task order basis** – 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.

k. **Approval of the renewal of the Master Contract for Professional Services between Ascension Parish Government and Gulf South Engineering and Testing, Inc, for geotechnical testing. Budget amount of $300,000.00 to be shared with another provider contracted to provide these services on a task order basis** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion passed with no objection.

l. **Approval of the second renewal of the Master Contract for Professional Services - Professional Engineering Support Services between Ascension Parish Government and Forte & Tablada, Inc. for bridge load ratings of parish-owned bridges. The total amount of the contract is $150,000.00 shared between two providers** - A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

m. **Approval of the second renewal of the Master Contract for Professional Services - Professional Engineering Support Services between Ascension Parish Government and Huval & Associates, Inc. for bridge load ratings of parish-owned bridges. The total amount of the contract is $150,000.00 shared between two providers** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.

n. **Approval of Change Order #7 - R.J. Daigle and Sons Contractors, Inc., for the US 61 and Germany Road Intersection Improvements (MA-18-05) to add 153 additional days created by supply chain issues in receipt of traffic signal equipment and increase the contract by $20,496.93, for a new not to exceed amount of $1,125,698.33, to paint the median and driveway islands and remove pavement markings in the intersection** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.

o. **Approval of Changer Order #1 - Hendrick Construction, for the PR 929 at Parker Road Roundabout Project in the Move Ascension Program, Project H.006457, to reimburse the contractor for LADOTD requirement to purchase Owner's and Contractor's Protective Liability (OCP) insurance, which increases the contract amount by $6,335.00 for a total contract amount of $2,183,173.65** - Daniel Helms, Chief Transportation Engineer 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 Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

p. **Approval of Changer Order #2 - Hendrick Construction, for the PR 929 at Parker Road Roundabout Project in the Move Ascension Program, Project H.006457, to provide for quantity overruns and additional working days to bridge utilities by enclosing proposed site road drain with concrete pipe versus relocating them. This work increases the contract amount by $60,385.94 for a new total contract amount of $2,243,559.59. This work also adds eight (8) additional working days to the contract, for a total of 88 working days** – 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.

q. **Approval of Changer Order #3 - Hendrick Construction, for the PR 929 at Parker Road Roundabout Project in the Move Ascension Program, Project H.006457, to add pay items to mitigate unsuitable material found through excavation. This work increases the contract amount by $157,949.77, for a new total contract amount of $2,401,509.36** - Daniel Helms, Chief Transportation Engineer spoke to the Committee on this item. 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.

r. **Approval of the Legal Services Contract between Ascension Parish Government and Mayhall, Fondren, Blaize, LLC, to provide legal advice to Ascension Parish Government regarding carbon capture. The rate at which Mayhall, Fondren, Blaize, LLC may bill the Parish shall not exceed the Attorney General rate and shall not exceed $50,000.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion passed with no objection.

s. **Approval of Ordinance to amend the Ascension Parish Unified Land Development Code Appendix XII regarding building fees** – and Tyler Angelloz, Building Official and Ricky Compton, Director of Planning and Facilities Management spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve placing the item on General Business on the Council Agenda for further discussion and approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion passed with no objection.

t. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Legal Services Contract with Daigle, Fisse & Kessenich to amend the contract and Exhibit A to include additional scope of work: Parish of Ascension v. Corey J. Orgeron and Brandee C. Orgeron #2023-412 P** - Jean Paul Robert, Parish Attorney presented this item to the Committee. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion passed with objection by Councilman Aaron Lawler who requested that the item go on General Business on the Council Agenda.

u. **Approval of Amendment #1 to the Master Contract with Quality Engineering & Surveying for the Butch Gore Park Renovations to include a walking trail design for an additional amount of $5,000.00. The total contract amount is $137,822.00** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Dal Waguespack. The motion was seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion passed with no objection.

v. **Approval for the Ascension Parish Council to adopt the Rate Study required for the Water Sector Grant Program and to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to implement, sign and execute all documents pertaining to this Rate Study and/or Dawn Caballero, Interim CFO, for financial documents** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.

w. **Approval of Amendment #3 to Master Contract for Professional Services with I.C.E. Sales and Service, LLC for SCADA Support, Service and Maintenance, Project No. PUA-19-001, for an extension of the contract through January 31, 2024. This amendment does not affect the contract price** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. The motion passed with no objection.

x. **Approval of Change Order #7 - B.E.T. Construction, Inc. for the Early Learning Center-Lemann Building, for additional work to add access control and security to include a new panic button system and door intercom with door release for additional costs of $80,334.58 and to extend the substantial completion date an additional 45 days. New contract price $1,565,969.14 with a new substantial completion date of 11/18/2023** – Bill Dawson, Utilities Director spoke to the Committee on this item. A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilwoman Teri Casso. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dal Waguespack. The motion passed with no objection.

y. **Approval of Change Order #8 - B.E.T. Construction, Inc. for the Early Learning Center-Lemann Building, for additional work to add HVAC modifications for an additional amount of $987.36. New contract amount $1,566,956.50** – 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.

z. **Approval of Change Order #9 - B.E.T. Construction, Inc. for the Early Learning Center-Lemann Building, for additional work to add concrete beneath display windows for an additional cost of $3,289.31 and to extend the substantial completion date an additional three (3) days. New contract amount $1,570,245.81 and new substantial completion date of 11/21/2023** – A motion to approve forwarding to the full Council for approval was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. The motion was seconded by Councilman John Cagnolatti. The motion passed with no objection.

aa. **Approval of Change Order #10 - B.E.T. Construction, Inc. for the Early Learning Center - Lemann Building, for additional work to remove existing mastic from the concrete floor in order to install a new floor and add an additional seven (7) days to the contract term for the additional work. Additional amount of $117,933.20. The new contract amount is $1,688,179.01 and the new substantial completion date is 11/28/23** – Bill Dawon, Utilities Director spoke to the Committee on this item. 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.

bb. **Contract Report of all Contracts/Agreements entered into in the month of September 2023** - Chairman Mason announced that the report was sent to the Committee prior to the meeting and that any questions submitted should have been answered. If anyone had any further questions, they can contact Legal or Finance.

(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 6:06 pm on a motion by Councilwoman Teri Casso, seconded by Councilman Aaron Lawler.