Brainerd, MN
February 22, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Special Meeting of the Brainerd Personnel and Finance Committee was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Council President Scheeler.

Upon roll call, the following members were noted present: Pritschet, Bevans, Johnson, Hilgart, Koep and Scheeler. Member Borkenhagen was noted as absent. Mayor Menk was also noted as present.

The Chair opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Agenda

Council President Scheeler reported that an additional item to review the new "Welcome to Brainerd Business Award" would be added as 5a.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN HILGART AND PRITSCHET, DULY CARRIED, TO ADOPT THE AMENDED AGENDA.

2016 Brainerd Airport Utility Extension Project

Council President Scheeler discussed options being distributed to Council. He also discussed options for paying for any actions taken this evening, including that the L.O.S.T. cannot be used for sewer costs based on actions passed by Legislation.

It was clarified that if what is accepted this evening is the completion of only Area #1 as recommended, the Council does have the option of rebidding or taking a different provider for the other Areas.

Bid Tabulation Report

City Engineer Hulsether reviewed the four bids received for the project.

City Engineer Memo Outlining History of Project and Project Management Recommendations

It was noted that the cost of this project to date has been between $700,000 and $800,000 and that the City of Baxter has contributed $500,000.

Opportunity for Citizen Comments

The Chair recognized Kathy Thompson of Tom's Backhoe who addressed the Council in support of the bid they have submitted.

Bid amounts were discussed.

Project options were discussed among Council members.

Finance Director Hillman discussed funding options/concerns. Extensive discussion was held relating to many of these concerns.

Adopt Resolution Awarding Bid to Lowest Responsible Bidder on the 2016 Brainerd Airport Utility Extension Project Area 1, City Improvement 14-15; Rejecting all Bids on Project Areas 2, 3 and 4

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN KOEP AND BEVANS TO AWARD THE BID TO LOW BIDDER MEYER CONTRACTING IN THE AMOUNT OF $7,331,662.71 FOR TOTAL PROJECT AREA 1 OF CITY IMPROVEMENT NO. 14-15 – AIRPORT UTILITY EXTENSION; FURTHER, TO REJECT ALL OF THE BIDS FOR TOTAL PROJECT AREAS 2, 3, AND 4.

Considerable discussion took place among Council members and staff.

Members Bevans, Koep and Scheeler voted “aye.” Members Pritschet, Johnson and Hilgart voted “nay.” Mayor Menk broke the tie with a “nay” vote. The Chair declared the motion failed.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN JOHNSON AND PRITSCHET TO AWARD THE BID FOR THE ENTIRE AIRPORT UTILITY PROJECT TO LOW BIDDER, TOM’S BACKHOE FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF $8,591,721.58, WHICH INCLUDES ALL FOUR PROJECT AREAS.

Council Member Bevans reported that he will be voting against the motion until he hears from the Finance Director on how the City will pay for it. Mayor Menk posed to the Finance Director Hillman and BPU Finance Director Wicklund the question of how we would fund all four areas. To which both responded, it is unknown at this time.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Johnson, and Hilgart voted “aye.” Members Bevans, Koep and Scheeler voted “nay.” Mayor Menk broke the tie vote with an “aye” vote. The Chair declared the motion carried.

City Engineer Hulsether stated that this action needs to be adopted in a resolution format so the following resolution was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 09:16

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Johnson, and Hilgart voted “aye.” Members Bevans, Koep and Scheeler voted “nay.” Mayor Menk broke the tie vote with an “aye” vote. The Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted.

City Plaque Design – Informational

City Administrator Thoreen showcased a plaque City staff designed to honor those who are advancing our community by investing in buildings and property; similar to the Tower Award designed and presented in the past by the late Mayor Wallin. He reported that the first recipient would be Royal Tire who recently remodeled their facility. The Council was in full support of this action.

Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:54 P.M.

James M. Thoreen
City Administrator