

FINANCE COMMITTEE

LEWISTON, MAINE

April 26, 2004

PRESENT:

Robert Stone, Councilor Mark Paradis, Ronald Paradis and Roger Provencher.

ABSENT:

Councilor Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 p.m. by Chairman Roger Provencher.

On motion of Mr. Mark Paradis seconded by Mr. Stone it was

VOTED:

(44-2004) To dispense with reading of the minutes of the previous meeting dated April 5, 2004 and to accept and place them on file as submitted by the Clerk.

VOTE: 4-0

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Ron Paradis it was

VOTED:

(45-2004) To award Bid 2004-20 on a Mobile Litter Collection Vehicle to Howard P. Fairfield, Skowhegan, Maine, low bidder meeting specifications at their bid price of \$33,495.

VOTE: 4-0

The Committee considered approval of Task Order #1 on the Storm Water Phase II Program. The Committee had previously awarded a two (2) year contract to EER who has now changed their name to Aquarion Engineering Services of Portland. This Task Order will allow for the completion of the first annual report of Storm Water Phase II Program that would be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency.

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Mark Paradis, seconded by Mr. Stone it was

VOTED:

(46-2004) To award the contract for Task Order #1 with Aquarion Engineering Services, Portland, Maine, on the Storm Water Phase II Program in the amount not to exceed \$16,200.

VOTE: 4-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 26, 2004

Ratification was requested of Change Order #1 on the Library Cultural Learning Center Project. The work would allow for the installation and furnishing of an additional floor framing to support the Lisbon Street side of the building as well as removing of the existing plaster wall in the Performance Meeting Room. The total amount of the Change Order was \$4,454.52.

On motion of Mr. Mark Paradis, seconded by Mr. Ron Paradis it was

VOTED:

(47-2004) To ratify approval of Change Order #1 on the Library Cultural Learning Center Project with Ganneston Construction in the amount of \$4,454.52.

VOTE: 4-0

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Mark Paradis it was

VOTED:

(48-2004) To award Bid 2004-34 on an Emergency Backup Generator System for the Randall Road Pumping Station to Cummins Northeast Inc., Scarborough, Maine, low bidder at their bid price of \$24,430.

VOTE: 4-0

The Committee considered award of the bid on Environmental Remediation at the Bates Mill Complex. The low bidder Abatement Solutions Inc., of Gray, Maine, had submitted a \$30,000 certified check as bid security for the project. This check will be replaced by a Performance and Payment Bond upon signing of the contract. After review of proposals with the City's Consultant, Summit Environmental, it was the recommendation that the bid be awarded to the low bidder Abatement Solutions Inc.

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Ron Paradis, seconded by Mr. Mark Paradis it was

VOTED:

(49-2004) To award Bid 2004-35 on Environmental Remediation of Lot #1 at the Bates Mill Complex to Abatement Solutions Inc., Gray, Maine, low bidder at their total bid price of \$299,000.

VOTE: 4-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 26, 2004

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Ron Paradis it was

VOTED:

(50-2004) To award Bid 2004-29 on the Gully Brook Sewer Separation Project Phase III to St. Laurent & Son, Lewiston, Maine, low bidder at their bid price of \$698,760.

VOTE: 4-0

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Mark Paradis it was

VOTED:

(51-2004) To award Bid LA 2004-1 on Water Treatment Chemicals to the low bidder meeting specifications on an item by item basis as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Items</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>
(JCI) Jones Chemicals Inc. Merrimack NH	#1: one ton cylinders of Chlorine Gas	\$62.50/cwt
Harcross Chemical Inc. Westbrook ME	#3: Caustic Soda #5: Sodium Hypochlorite	\$.5097/gallon \$.7485/gallon
Monson Chemicals Inc. So. Portland ME	#2: Fluorosilicic Acid	\$.9690/gallon
Univar USA Inc. Providence RI	#4: Anhydrous Ammonia	\$112.50/cylinder

VOTE: 4-0

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Mark Paradis , seconded by Mr. Stone it was

VOTED:

(52-2004) To award Bid LA 2004-2 on Trench Restoration for various utility excavations to T W Paving, Lewiston, Maine, low bidder at a total estimated bid price of \$20,893.

VOTE: 4-0

On recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and on motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Mark Paradis it was

VOTED:

(53-2004) To ratify the award of Bid 2004-32 on the Demolition of 400 Canal Street to the low bidder, Beaulieu Industries, Lewiston, Maine, at their total bid price of \$3,400.

VOTE: 4-0

The Finance Director reviewed the Fiscal Year 2005 Budget recommended by the City Administrator to the City Council. The total budget of \$76,185,297 is a \$2.5 million increase or 3.45% above the Fiscal Year 2004 Budget. The property tax impact of this budget would be a 28.25 mil rate which is a .55 mil rate or 1.99% increase.

Some of the major increase areas from the budget on the City side are as follows:

- Salaries and Wages \$378,584
- Debt Service \$623,796
- Health Insurance \$326,253
- Property and Casualty Insurance \$64,650
- Legal Services \$55,000
- Unemployment Insurance \$15,500
- Total \$1,463,783**

Mr. Stone indicated that he was concerned relative to the potential for a new school construction in the future which would add additional cost during a period when the number of students in the classrooms is reducing. Mr. Stone also mentioned that he was concerned relative to the increase in debt service and how it would impact budgets in the future. Increases in debt service for new investment would have to be supported by additional development that would increase the tax base at a pace that would be adequate to keep up with the new debt service.

Other members expressed similar concerns and voiced their opinions relative to the importance of trying to hold the line on property taxes to the extent possible.

On motion of Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Provencher it was

VOTED:

(54-2004) To recommend to the Mayor and City Council that they keep any property tax rate increase to a minimum while not reducing the critical services needed by the community and to also carefully scrutinize the authorization of additional debt so as not to negatively impact the budgets of future years.

VOTE: 4-0

VOTED:

To adjourn at 6:13 p.m.

Richard T. Metivier
 Clerk
 Finance Committee