

**City of Locust Grove
Special Called Meeting Minutes
3640 Highway 42 – Public Safety Building
Locust Grove, GA 30248
Friday, August 14, 2020
1:00 P.M.**

Members Present	Staff Present
Robert Price - Mayor	Tim Young – City Manager
Willie Taylor – Councilman	Bert Foster – Assistant City Manager
Randy Gardner – Councilman	Misty Spurling – City Clerk
Rod Shearouse – Councilman	Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk
Carlos Greer–Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem	Andy Welch – City Attorney
Rudy Breedlove – Councilman	
Keith Boone – Councilman	

Mayor Price called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

Invocation given by Assistant City Manager Bert Foster

Councilman Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS -

1. Presentation of Sanitation RFP responses and evaluations by reviewers –

City Manager Tim Young stepped forward and led discussion there were seven respondents at the Prebid meeting: however, only four submitted proposals. Mr. Young said the rating sheets and point maximums reached 100 points based on the criteria from the reviewer form. The compiled ranking of the five (5) reviews collectively are attached. We allocated the pricing points based on the prior year expenditures and discussion took place on ratings by individual reviewers.

Mr. Young said we priced carts for purchasing which is reviewed in the next section. We proposed we could handle disposal of our own sludge which will save money and allow us to provide better service. We will purchase our own equipment and cost savings through that approach will offset expenses.

Councilman Breedlove asked what the current rate for trash service and Mr. Young replied \$13.50 and said we have not had an increase in a while. We proposed several scenarios including charging the residents \$14.50 per month for trash service with potential increase over time.

Attorney Andy Welch said we need to look ahead at the cost savings as well. Staff can make recommendation to Council of moving to award the bid to one of the four companies and authorize review of the contract by himself and staff to bring back at another meeting for approval.

Mr. Young said we have looked at longer term decisions related to internalizing most all the waste collections and review options in terms of pricing and deciding fees.

Attorney Andy Welch said staff has reviewed what private sectors could provide and reviewed the possibility of internalizing [restated by Andy to bringing the work in-house] to compare what is best for the city. Advanced Disposal is providing a good proposal; however, we did a comprehensive analysis. Steve Edwards with Advanced Disposal is present to answer any questions.

Councilman Boone said he does not remember being asked to review as Council to internalize versus continuing with a company. Mayor Price said we discussed in Americus at a previous retreat. Councilman Boone said he cannot agree with the alternate proposal; however, is in favor of the proposal from Advanced Disposal. Councilman Boone asked what Advanced currently charges for trash pick-up and Mr. Young replied the current rate is \$11.01 and the proposed rate is \$9.95.

Councilman Greer made a comment he was comparing the estimated yearly cost total proposal [\$726,390] versus the alternate [\$545,173] at year 2025 and discussion took place. Mr. Young replied the truck is only a five-year lease. Mr. Foster said we are trying to conservatively estimate the population growth; however, it is very hard to estimate the fuel and dump fees. Councilman Greer said based on the numbers it seems we would immediately see a savings; however, he does not understand how we could save money initially with the upfront costs related to internalizing ourselves. Attorney Andy Welch replied being the truck would be financed we would not have that lump sum all at once.

Councilman Breedlove asked if we have already decided we will do bulk pickup ourselves and Attorney Andy Welch replied the initial approach is the city to do bulk pickup, to which Tim Young stated that we are already doing a lot of bulk pickup these days, especially after COVID-19.

Attorney Andy Welch reviewed the options being proposed to Council. Council can award one of the four qualified proposals to provide service to the city for a longer period of time; choose Advanced Disposal and extend for one year and during that time shift to internal garbage collection by the city [staff recommended]; or continue the contract with Advanced Disposal.

Councilman Breedlove asked if we could have the contract expire in 2022 and Attorney Andy Welch replied yes, normally the contracts are a two-year term with renewal option.

Councilman Boone asked how the city would handle if the financial health of the city declines and could not operate sanitation to standards. Discussion took place and Attorney Andy Welch said the City is doing very well financially. Discussion took place about the dump site and fee increases. Mr. Young replied we would haul the trash to Advanced Disposal in Jackson and would not increase rates initially; however, we may need to look at increases in increments over time as we have done in the past for utility rates. Nothing further.

2. Decision on Sanitation RFP –

Councilman Breedlove made the motion to award bid to Advanced Disposal for the remainder of 2020 through 2021 and the following year unless we exercise the option to terminate.

RESULT	AWARDED BID TO ADVANCED DISPOSAL
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

3. Resolution to approve lease for roll-off truck for Sanitation and Sanitary Sewer Sludge Haul -

City Manager Tim Young said this is to enter into agreement with United Bank for the lease-purchase of a Freightliner Truck in the amount of \$174,200 for use in bulk pickup of trash as well in the transport of wastewater plant sludge to the Pine Ridge Landfill.

Attorney Andy Welch made a comment the EPD is moving towards grading sludge into different classes and trying to shift to having “Class A” sludge. Discussion took place. Mr. Young said our sludge hauls are everyday now versus in the past we were doing two hauls per week which increases our costs. We are also looking at expanding the sewer plant in the future and discussion took place.

Councilman Greer asked about the cost of the truck. Mr. Young replied the truck is \$174,200 (lease-purchase) over a five-year period. We will also purchase roll offs that are estimated to be \$4,000 each, from the existing general fund.

Councilman Boone asked if we could pay for the truck in full without leasing and receive a discount by not financing costs of approximately \$13,000. Mr. Young replied he prefers to lease for large capital equipment to allocate the costs over time. Attorney Andy Welch asked the effect it would have on the budget if we did not lease and Mr. Young said he would have to amend the budget. Discussion took place. Attorney Andy Welch made a comment Steve with Advanced Disposal said he will add a line item cost into the contract for [Advanced Disposal] to haul sludge if the city’s equipment is down being the city will only have one truck.

Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #20-08-042.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #20-08-042
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

4. Items related to local government operations and budget –

Mr. Young led discussion we received the CARES ACT revenue in our account, and we are required to provide supporting documentation for qualified expenditures by September 1, 2020. Currently, our police expenditures are \$500,000 from March-July and this money will help absorb that amount.

Councilman Greer asked can a portion of the money be used to issue bonuses and Mr. Young replied no, we have provided premium pay accordingly. Nothing further.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS - NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION - LITIGATION

Mayor Price asked for a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Greer made the motion with second by Councilman Breedlove. All in favor and motion carried. Council entered executive session at 2:13 PM.

Mayor Price asked for a motion to reconvene to regular session from executive session at 2:25 PM. Councilman Greer made the motion with second by Councilman Boone. All in favor and motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT –

Mayor Price asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Boone made the motion to adjourn.

RESULT	APPROVED – ADJOURN MEETING
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED MEETING ADJOURNED @ 2:26PM.

Notes taken by:

Misty Spurling, City Clerk