

## **CITY OF DARLINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS JANUARY 18, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike McDermott at 7:20 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited. Present at roll call were: Josh Goebel, Cindy Corley, Steve Pickett, Erin Gallagher, Ray Spellman and Dave Roelli. Absent: None. Also present were: Bill McDaniel, Jeremy Williams, Abby Haas, Lafayette County Economic Development Director; Mark Digman, Delta 3 Engineering; Brian Lund and Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Pickett second by Roelli that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Pickett second by Spellman to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, Jeremy Williams requested input and guidance from Council members regarding the green scape planting areas on Main Street. Now that people have had time to consider the size and location of the green scape planting areas; do you want to keep them, change them or eliminate them. Several options were discussed. Alderperson Pickett reported the Darlington Chamber/Main Street Committee has voted to eliminate all of the planting areas on Main Street. They suggest filling them all in with concrete. After discussion and consideration, motion by Goebel second by Pickett to eliminate the planting areas and concrete them all in. Since this matter was not on the agenda for this meeting, no action was taken regarding this motion. It was the consensus of those present to place this matter on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning proposed Changer Order #1 regarding the contract with H. James & Sons, Inc., for work completed in the Darlington Business Park. Mark Digman of Delta 3 Engineers attended the meeting to present information and answer questions. Mark then distributed a copy of the proposed change order to Council members at this meeting. Mark then reported on three items which affected the contract price for this project. The net total change is an addition of \$55,851.56 to the original contract amount, increasing the total contract price to \$1,715,060.37. In addition, the substantial completion date was changed from October 1, 2021 to October 8, 2021. Several questions were asked by those present. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Goebel to approve Change Order #1 regarding the contract with H. James & Sons, Inc., for the work completed in the Darlington Business Park as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning the final pay application from H. James & Sons, Inc., for work completed in the Darlington Business Park. Mark Digman of Delta 3 Engineers attended the meeting to present information and answer questions. Mark then distributed a copy of the final pay application to Council members at this meeting. The final pay application shows an amount due this application of \$120,379.92. Mark then stated, he feels the project is complete and the contractor is due the full amount; however, there is a list of punch list items that need to be completed in the spring.

Troy Maggied of SWWRPC has been in contact with representatives of EDA, and they stated they will withhold approximately \$39,000.00 of grant funds, until the contractor has completed the punch list items. Mark then asked for direction from the City Council regarding the final pay application. Should the entire amount be paid? Or should a smaller amount be paid now, and hold back some money to be paid when the punch list items are fixed. After discussion and consideration, motion by Goebel second by Pickett to hold back \$40,000.00 retainage amount, and authorize payment to the contractor of \$80,379.92. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning proposed financing of the Clay and Driver Street project to be completed in 2022. Mark Digman of Delta 3 Engineering then reported on possible funding sources. He stated his company has already submitted this project for DNR funding for both water and sewer grant/loan funds. This project has also been approved for Local Government Improvement Funds for the street blacktop costs. Mark then explained as far as representatives of their firm have determined; the approved federal infrastructure dollars will be distributed through the states; and the states will use programs currently in place to administer those dollars. Each program will just have more funds to disburse than normal years. However, at this time, no one know how the funds will be authorized, or if they will be grant funds or loan funds. Representatives of Delta 3 Engineers will continue to monitor the situation and continue to apply for grant and loan funds for the City of Darlington.

Several questions were asked by those present. Mark also listed several grant/loan programs currently offered through the State of Wisconsin, DNR, WDOT, CDBG and USDA. Loan funds are the easiest to obtain. Grant funds are usually based on household low to moderate income rules and economic need. The City of Darlington as a whole does not qualify as a low to moderate income community. There being no further discussion, Mark Digman and Jeremy Williams then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendations from the Plan Commission:

- Certified survey map approval request from Adam Wiegel for this property located at 1033 Keep Street. Mayor McDermott reported the Plan Commission is recommending approval of the certified survey map from Adam Wiegel as presented. After discussion and consideration, motion by Roelli second by Goebel to accept the Plan Commission recommendation and approve the certified survey map from Adam Wiegel for his property located at 1033 Keep Street as presented. Motion carried.
- Initial housing plan from Abby Haas. Abby attended the meeting to summarize the discussion at the Plan Commission meeting, and confirm her action items from the meeting. She stated she will review the City's ordinances, and request ordinances from other communities for review; and create a list of infill lots within the Darlington city limits. The next Plan Commission meeting was then scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

Motion by Pickett second by Spellman to approve the payment of the following December, 2021 vouchers: City vouchers #43261 thru #43371 in the amount of \$131,664.69; Direct deposit payroll vouchers #11788 thru #11853 in the amount of \$54,885.92; Water Dept. vouchers #6736 thru #6770 in the amount of \$58,003.38; Sewer Dept. vouchers #7514 thru #7542 in the amount of \$50,519.97; and Library vouchers #6078 thru #6094 in the amount of \$14,655.88. Motion carried.

Under reports of committees, it was reported the Ehlers Public Finance Seminar is scheduled for February 17-18, 2022 at Wisconsin Dells. So far, Mayor Mike McDermott and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Amy Johnson have agreed to attend. At this meeting Ray Spellman stated he would like to attend. The registration for this seminar will be finalized tomorrow.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Gallagher second by Goebel to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

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Philip A. Risseeuw, Clerk-Treasurer