

A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Friday, November 26, 1965, having been duly called by the Mayor pursuant to Section 3.22 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte, with Mayor Stan R. Brookshire presiding, and Councilmen Claude L. Albea, Fred D. Alexander, Sandy R. Jordan, Milton Short, Jerry Tuttle and James B. Whittington present.

ABSENT: Councilman John H. Thrower.

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

CONTRACTS AWARDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ADDITIONS TO HOSKINS WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND PUMPING STATION TO LEE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR ELECTRICAL WORK AND TO A. Z. PRICE AND ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR MECHANICAL WORK.

Mayor Brookshire stated the purpose of the meeting is to consider the bids received for Additions to the Hoskins Water Treatment Plant and Pumping Station.

That as the Council members know, he called this special meeting today rather than having these bids considered at the regular meeting on last Monday, for the reason that he had contacted the Housing and Home Finance Agency in Washington in an effort to learn whether or not if we proceeded to award these contracts and commit these funds, it would adversely affect the use of the money involved in the contracts as the City's portion in applying for matching federal funds for our water and sewer extension program for which we hope to secure federal assistance. That Mr. Milton Seemer, who is next in line to the man who heads the HHFA told him over the telephone that he did not have the answer to this question, and he would endeavor to get the answer for him within a very few days. The Mayor stated that he did not hear from Mr. Seemer on Wednesday and called him again this morning but was unable to reach him. That Mr. Veeder, City Manager, Mr. Franklin, Supt. of the Water Department and he agree that we should not further delay awarding these contracts as the thirty-days period in which the contracts may be awarded will expire at two o'clock this afternoon.

Councilman Tuttle asked the City Manager if he feels sure that any funds we might get from the government could be made retroactive? Mr. Veeder replied that he does not know. That no one seems to know what the ground rules are going to be on this particular federal program, nor has the form for applying for these matching federal funds been made available.

Councilman Whittington stated that he is of the opinion that we should go ahead and award the contracts in faith and hope that we will get matching funds. He asked the City Manager if he did not tell the Council last Monday that we had another \$2,500,000.00 in contracts to be awarded in the near future for which we should receive matching funds? Mr. Veeder replied that is correct. That he thinks regardless of what Uncle Sam does as relates to the contracts now in process, we have about \$2,000,000 worth of raw water line work to be let shortly, on as much as a two weeks notice, as soon as we find out something from Uncle Sam.

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That perhaps it boils down to this point, regardless of what Uncle Sam decides as relates to projects already let, we are still going to have a substantial amount of work ready when the ground rules are decided upon.

Councilman Albea commented that from what the City Manager has said this work has to be done regardless of what Uncle Sam does, and he moved that the contract be awarded Lee Construction Company, the low bidder, for the general construction of the Additions to the Hoskins Water Treatment Plant and Pumping Station, as specified, in the amount of \$2,588,800.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan.

Councilman Jordan stated that the officials in Hartford, Conn., told them that they had contracts that had already been negotiated or let, and they had received matching funds for them retroactive. So he feels sure that if matching funds are available, we will be able to get them on these contracts.

Councilman Short stated this is a perplexing thing, as we have all mentioned. He does not think the Federal Government is going to award matching funds for every little water and sewer extension that comes along at this time. That even though some of the federal programs have been retroactive and have picked up projects in the process, he is not certain they are going to double the money spent by every town in the United States that may very well have been thinking of doing this for many years. On the other hand, we cannot wait for the period that would probably be required by the Federal Government, because, in some instances, it is actually years. That he just wonders if we cannot place with Mr. Seemer something - the closest to which he can think of legally speaking is a lis pendens - in the form of a certificate or letter or other document that would fully explain the projects and amounts involved here today; the dilemma we find ourselves in and the action that we took, with the idea that when they do come around to setting up some priorities, this is not merely an effort on our part to double some casual money that happened to be in existence. That we keep them very thoroughly informed in the sense that we have tried to cover the situation, rather than in an opportunistic way are trying to double some money that just happen to come along. That he wonders if this is not desirable?

Mayor Brookshire replied that he thinks with the regulations they develop for the application upon this 1965 Housing Bill will permit retroactive consideration of subject expenditures and that we will have no trouble whatsoever. That he would think it would all depend entirely upon the final format of their regulations which is now in the process of being established and that is why we cannot get an answer at the moment.

Councilman Albea stated he appreciates what Mr. Short said, but he doesn't believe this would hurt us any to ask for it if it is retroactive. Councilman Jordan commented that it will not hurt us if we go ahead and approve this today with the understanding that it there is any possibility of getting the money on this in the future, that is what we are going to do.

Councilman Short stated what he is suggesting is that we, by letter or some informal but written means, get in their hands something that shows what we were faced with today and what we did about it. That it would seem to him this would at least put us at the top of the list for consideration when the rules are finally known.

Mayor Brookshire stated that we can send Mr. Seemer a letter confirming his first telephone conversation with him and mention that he has been trying to reach him since that time for the purpose of determining, before the actions of the Council today, the matter of its application as part of our matching funds and make that as a matter of record in Mr. Seemer's office.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

Councilman Jordan moved the award of contract to The Industrial Electric Company, the low bidder, for the Electrical Work on the Additions to Hoskins Water Treatment Plant and Pumping Station, as specified, in the amount of \$64,800.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle and unanimously carried.

Councilman Whittington moved the award of contract to A. Z. Price & Associates, Inc., the low bidder, for the Mechanical Work on the Additions to Hoskins Water Treatment Plant and Pumping Station, as specified, in the amount of \$22,521.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alexander and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Jordan and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk