

COUNCIL CONFERENCE MINUTES

December 28, 2010

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in a conference at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Conference Room on the 28th day of December, 2010, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and the Norman Public Library at 225 North Webster 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Atkins, Butler, Cubberley, Dillingham, Ezzell, Griffith, Kovach, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: None

DISCUSSION REGARDING CHANGE ORDER NO. ONE TO CONTRACT NO. K-1011-80 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN AND SCHAFFNER-VALOUCH CONTRACTOR, INC., INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$3,877 FOR THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING B LIGHTING REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTRACT.

Ms. Brenda Hall, City Clerk, said in its meeting of October 12, 2010, City Council approved Contract No. K-1011-80 with Schaffner-Valouch Contractor, Inc., for the Municipal Building B Lighting Replacement Project. The contract included replacing 363 lighting fixtures installed when the building was constructed and the new light bulbs use 30% less energy. She said Change Order No. One in the amount of \$3,877 reconciles the as-bid quantities to as-installed quantities as well as accounts for additional wall pack units installed at some of the outside employee entrance areas for enhanced safety purposes. The wall pack units are shielded fixtures that are in compliance with current fixtures being considered in the latest draft of the proposed lighting ordinance. The project qualifies for an energy rebate under OG&E's Lighting Rebate Program that provides rebates for replacing old inefficient light fixtures with more energy efficient light fixtures and this project is eligible for a rebate in the amount of \$2,960. The project has been completed, inspected, and complies with all City Codes and specifications outlined in the original contract.

Items submitted for the record

1. Text File No. K-1011-80, CHG #1 dated December 14, 2010, from Brenda Hall, City Clerk
2. Change Order No. One to Contract No. K-1011-80

FOLLOW-UP TO THE 2010 RESIDENTIAL COLLECTIONS OPERATIONS REVIEW PREPARED BY R.W. BECK COMPANY AS IT RELATES TO ALLEYWAY COLLECTION.

Mr. Ken Komiske, Director of Utilities, said R.W. Beck Company is a nationwide organization that reviews engineering aspects and are noted for sanitation collection service reviews. He said in 2010, R.W. Beck was contracted to review the City of Norman's residential collection operation services and found the City has a well run system that will only increase its operational efficiencies by implementing their recommendation to reduce or eliminate alley pickup.

Mr. Komiske said in the "how to" books of Public Administration, the point of collection can play a major role in reducing collection costs and pickup from the curb is by far the most economical practice. He said Staff has driven through the alley pickup areas in the City and approximately 1,100 residences would have to change the location of their polycart pickup to the street, if eliminating alley pickups is the direction Council decides to take. He presented an overview of alley pickup locations throughout the City and said, in some areas, polycarts are placed in the alleys while others are placed in the street, which doubles the sanitation's driving route.

Mr. Komiske said, over the years, sanitation trucks have gotten larger to carry a higher volumes of trash decreasing the number of trips to the Transfer Station. He said the larger heavier trucks make it difficult to maneuver in alleys and can cause damage to the alley roadway.

Mr. Scottie Williams, Utilities Superintendent, said a main concern for trucks navigating through alleys are avoiding power lines and gas meters. Mr. Komiske said if changing an area to street side pickup is not possible due to problems such as vehicles parking on the street or the condition of the street, Staff would suggest residents place polycarts on the side of the alley where there are no power line poles.

Mr. Komiske said the City could test a specific area where streets would lend themselves to being polycart available and conduct public meetings for residents input and feedback.

Councilmember Kovach asked if Staff had any idea of the depth of the backyards and whether or not citizens have access to the alley. He said when the City changed the regulation on mowing public right-of-ways, some citizens did not have gates for access to mow their section of property. Mr. Komiske said there are a very few number of houses that cannot access the street and those residences may have to install a gate to access the street. He said another issue is that citizens with alley polycart placement generally leave the polycarts in the alley instead of moving them back to house side.

Councilmember Dillingham suggested choosing a trial test area where streets are easily accessed. She said the bigger issue will be educating alley users to change to the street location because the alley is the easier access. She felt this would also allow Council more time to decide if this would be a good change and what to do in areas where there are a lot of vehicles parked along the streets. Councilmember Cubberley said some cities do not allow parking on the street on sanitation pickup days and that could be a course of action that Norman could consider as well and Councilmember Kovach agreed. Councilmember Kovach felt the City should be consistent and ban street parking on sanitation pickup days. He also felt safety of employees is a huge issue as well in eliminating the alley service. Councilmember Atkins asked what the efficiency gains would be by eliminating alley pickup and Mr. Komiske said the study did not specify a number, just recommended increasing the number of pickups per hour, which is slowed by alley pickups. He said the City would save 17% to 18% of driving time and duplicating routes. Councilmember Kovach asked Staff to get information on alley repair costs and the savings of eliminating alley pickups.

Mayor Rosenthal suggested informing citizens in the targeted areas, by written notice, about the recommended changes then hold a public neighborhood meeting regarding the course of action and help them through the process of change. She said, during these meetings, the City could reiterate the requirement of returning polycarts to the side of the house. Councilmembers were all in agreement for Staff to choose a test area and begin with notifications and public meetings.

Items submitted for the record

1. PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Improving Efficiencies in the Sanitation Division Alley Polycart Service"

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor