

## **April 1, 2013 Work Session**

Present were Mayor Grenier, Councilors Otis, Benski, Morgan-Allain, and Rozek; Councilors Nelson, Theberge, Remillard and Higbee were absent.

Others present included Patrick MacQueen, Patty Chase, Corinne Cascadden, and Bryan Lamirande

Mayor Grenier opened the meeting at 6:33 p.m. He mentioned an additional item for the agenda being Amendment 9 of the Wright Pierce I & I contract. Councilor Rozek moved to add the item to the agenda; Councilor Otis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **School Update**

Corinne Cascadden and Bryan Lamirande reported that there is uncertainty about what sequestration will do to federal grants that the schools count on for staffing. The Title 1 grant is responsible for 17 positions. Title 2 is responsible for high quality teaching and professional development. There are 8 positions in the After School Program. Ms. Cascadden stated that, at a meeting in Concord, she was informed that cuts could be as much as 10 to 20%.

Mayor Grenier confirmed that no final amounts will be known until November, after the budget. Mr. Lamirande noted that the National Forestry Reserve will be reduced by 5.01%; this comes to the City in the form of a PILT payment of \$39,000. Ms. Cascadden said that at an upcoming School Board meeting, the Board will discuss how to cut to come to a flat budget.

Ms. Cascadden informed the Council that Milan and Dummer are looking at a Cooperative School as well as tuitioning their students to Gorham. There are 172 students resulting in \$1.2 million of revenue.

Mr. Lamirande reported that they have been looking at developing an access road behind the high school. In the construction plans for the high school, there was a planned road and Police and Fire have recommended such an access around the building. In order to secure grant money, a request for qualifications has to go out to secure a professional engineering firm qualified to do the design. Once the design is done the School Department can apply for grants for design and later construction.

The project would include an access road and fire protection; bus garage; parking and playground for Minnie Mounties and a bio energy area. Ms. Cascadden added that they are trying to position the project for homeland security funding. If the board makes a recommendation the council would have to vote on the engineering firm.

Mayor Grenier affirmed that the Planning Board is not required to review the project; however they would do a courtesy review.

### **City Manager Recruitment**

Mr. MacQueen and Sue Tremblay reviewed the schedule with the Council. Friday, April 5, the four member Council Committee will meet with candidates along with each of two panels. From those interviewed, three will be invited to meet with the Council on Saturday with the day beginning at 8:00 a.m. for orientation with the first interview being at 9:00 a.m. Councilor Morgan-Allain asked if the public can come in during the interviews and Mr. MacQueen indicated that the interviews are covered under non-public session, personnel issues.

**Amendment 9 to I & I Contract**

Mr. MacQueen informed the Council that this amendment to the I & I contract with Wright Pierce for full time construction administration and a project engineer. The new contract has not yet been awarded. If less time is used, the amount will be less up to a maximum of \$137,100.

Councilor Rozek commented that there is a need to provide for the possibility that the contractor will need to be hand held. Mr. MacQueen stated that the representative that oversees the project is not an engineer but he has a tremendous amount of experience.

Councilor Rozek moved to authorize the City Manager to sign Amendment 9 to the I & I contract with Wright Pierce; Councilor Morgan-Allain seconded and the motion carried. Councilor Rozek affirmed that DES and Rural Development will have to approve the contract as well.

**Other** – there were no items

There being no further business in the work session, at 7:15 p.m. Mayor Grenier called for a 15 minute recess, and will resume the meeting beginning with a Public Hearing at 7:30.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Tremblay  
Administrative Assistant