

MINUTES
CITY TRANSIT TRUST SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2016 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS/AUDITORIUM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Fred Fitch, Chairman. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Bob Morford, Keith Jackson, Rosemary Bellino-Hall, Jay Burk, Dwight Tanner, Jr., Cherry Phillips, V. Gay McGahee, Doug Wells.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Ihler, City Manager; Frank V. Jensen, City Attorney; Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF CITY TRANSIT TRUST MEETINGS OF SEPTEMBER 27 AND OCTOBER 11, 2016.

MOVED by Wells SECOND by Jackson to approve the minutes of City Transit Trust meetings of September 27 and October 11, 2016. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, McGahee, Wells. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Consider authorizing a purchase order to Gillig, LLC for three heavy duty transit buses using 2016 CIP funding. Exhibits: None.

Deborah Jones, representing the Lawton Area Transit System, stated two meetings ago the trust requested staff look into the potential of CNG buses and what it would take to go to that. She stated the LATS general manager and the maintenance director visited with communities and the FTA. She outlined in the agenda commentary all the issues they found. She stated she looks out for the fiscal impact on the trust as well as building the best public transportation system we can. The unavailability of FTA funds is compressing transit programs all over the nation and there is no FTA money that has been announced for any kind of competitive grant dealing with alternative energy and that forecloses the assistance of federal money.

Wells stated based on the federal government requiring a building before they can go to CNG, and that is not anywhere in the budget, he is going to make the motion to approve this item.

Jackson questioned why we are buying these buses so quickly with our 2016 money.

Jones stated buses are manufactured, they don't sit on a retail lot. They ordered three in May and this would be the second order of three which would make six. In the CIP they estimated they needed seven. The normal production line for Gillig is 15-16 months, so they won't pay for these for a period of time. They are expecting the first three buses in June 2017 and if they issue the purchase order for the next three this week they are looking at a delivery date of February or March of 2018.

Jackson stated he is going to vote no because he strongly believes they should be moving our operation towards CNG.

Mayor Fitch stated they are in a time restraint with getting the new buses and the condition of the existing buses. Getting the maintenance building prepared for CNG buses will take some time and training with a change of inventory and if they delay this more than 6-7 months, they will be looking at two years before they see the last three buses.

Jackson stated they need to make the first step.

Tanner questioned how long it will be before we are able to go to CNG buses.

Jones stated if they get an assessment of what it costs to put in a maintenance facility in the interim and hopefully they can get some FTA money, that will get them to about the order time when they will replace those seven buses that are currently out on line. It will not be as long as you think, maybe five years.

Tanner stated these buses are being purchased out of the 2015 CIP and he believes they cannot do another CIP until 2025, so he agrees with Councilmember Jackson, if they don't do it now when will they.

Jones stated they are not against an alternative fuel like CNG, but there is no advantage to having a CNG bus if they cannot maintain it in a FTA facility.

Wells stated the problem is to get CNG buses we have to have a facility already built prior to ordering the buses. We might be two years before we can get a building built if we can even find funding and then you are talking about a couple more years on top of that. He feels we cannot sit here and wait that long with the bus fleet we have now unless they are willing to change their routes. They are not going to have the buses to support it

Phillips stated the buses we got from Kansas City are used.

Jones stated when we took them they had over 600,000 miles on them. Since the last meeting when the trust authorized getting more used buses, they were at 5 Kansas City buses. In that two week time period they have had another frame failure and it might last a week or a month. They do not anticipate that the Kansas City buses will last two years, so timing is everything right now.

Phillips stated they need to support the system that is in place right now and they have the money allocated for the buses.

Tanner stated he is frustrated because Oklahoma has an abundance of natural gas and it is frustrating that we are not able to access this resource.

Wells stated they all wanted to go to CNG with these buses but if there is a federal government regulation that says you can't order the buses until you have a facility, that really puts a damper on it and they need to move on this because of the condition of the existing buses.

MOVED by Wells SECOND by Phillips to authorize LATS staff to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$1,205,421 from the 2016 CIP for three heavy duty buses. AYE: Morford, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, McGahee, Wells. NAY: Jackson. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

2. Consider approving a resolution authorizing the filing of a grant for part of federal assistance under Section 5307 Federal Transit Administration for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 appropriated funding in the amount of \$31,685, approving the application and authorizing the Chairman and Secretary to execute the same. Exhibits: Resolution No. 16-__.

Jones stated they have been authorized by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation additional grant funds a little over \$31,000. The match will be \$7,921 from the 2016 CIP. The total of the \$37,000 would be used to bring the Opus buses to Lawton and to bring them up to road standard.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by McGahee to approve **Resolution 16-06** authorizing the filing of a grant for part of federal assistance under Section 5307 Federal Transit Administration for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 appropriated funding in the amount of \$31,685, approving the application and authorizing the Chairman and Secretary to execute the same. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, McGahee, Wells. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Consider approving a Request for Proposal for an Insurance Company to provide annual auto insurance policy for the Lawton Area Transit System and authorize the solicitation of the same. Exhibits: Request for Proposal is on file in the City Clerk's office.

Ryan Landers, General Manager of LATS, stated per the management contract between McDonald Transit and the City of Lawton, they are required to bid out insurances and in this particular case they are bidding out auto insurance for a three year term. After the RFP is issued they will come back with a recommendation.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Phillips to approve a Request for Proposal for an Insurance Company to provide annual auto insurance policy for the Lawton Area Transit System and authorize the solicitation of the same. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, McGahee, Wells. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m. upon motion, second and roll call vote.

FRED L. FITCH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

TRACI L. HUSHBECK, SECRETARY