

Finance Committee

February 18, 2025

6:00pm - City Hall Council Chambers

Pro-Tem Chair Lavieri called the Meeting to order at 6:08 pm

ROLL CALL

Present – Aldermen Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

Excused Absence – Chairman Ptak, Alderman Crane, Alderman Thompson

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to make Alderman Lavieri Pro-Tem Chairperson due to absence of Chairman Ptak.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

NAYS: NONE **Absent**: Alderman Thompson, Ptak, Crane

Abstain: NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to allow Alderman Crane to attend the meeting remotely.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

NAYS: NONE **Absent**: Alderman Thompson, Ptak, Crane

Abstain: NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0

ROLL CALL

Present – Alderman Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane (remotely via phone call)

Excused Absence – Alderman Ptak, Alderman Thompson

Others Present: Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Finance Director John Duncan, Economic Development Director Curt Bedei, Fire Chief Jerry Janick, City Attorney James McPhedran, City Engineer Brian Brown, City Treasurer Virginia Kochanowski

A quorum was present.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Herndon to approve the amended minutes from February 3, 2025.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Bacidore to approve the request for monetary donation of \$300 to Illinois Valley Baseball League, LLC.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson, Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

City Engineer Brian Brown explained the safety issue and the reduction in cost from \$86,000 to \$76,764.77 through negotiations with Donahue. He provided additional context on the need for better access for operators due to the conversion to an aerobic digester. Brown mentioned that there was only one bid received for the railing, but multiple bids were solicited for the stairs. Brown also discussed the funding options, including a low-interest loan and the remaining contingency funds.

Terry Boyer emphasized the safety concerns, and the increased frequency of operator visits to the digester area. He also explained the negotiation process and the structural engineering review to ensure reasonable pricing.

Attorney McPhedran stated that the project falls within the original bid and that additional bids were solicited to ensure reasonable pricing.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the recommendation of the installation of a staircase and handrail to roof of Digester Control Building at 400 River Street at a cost of \$76,764.70.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Bacidore, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson, Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

There were no more questions on the bills.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dena Hicks raised concerns about the lack of transparency in the bidding process and the high cost of the stairs.

City Engineer Brown explained how Vissering went out to look for multiple bids because they would be subcontracting this project out. He continued by explaining the efforts to solicit multiple bids and negotiate the cost down. Brown discussed the importance of ensuring reasonable pricing and the safety concerns.

Dena Hicks also asked about the additional costs related to the Celebration of Lights, which Finance Director Duncan stated that he will share that information with her after the meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Pro-Tem Lavieri adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Amy" on the first line and "Quinn" on the second line, slightly overlapping.

Amy Quinn, City Clerk