

MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NICEVILLE, FLORIDA
MARCH 5, 2015

The Niceville City Council met in special session at 5:30 PM, March 5, 2015 in the Council Chambers, 208 N Partin Drive. All Council members, except for Councilman Nodjomian who was away on business and the Mayor were present. Also present were City Manager, Lannie Corbin; City Clerk, Dan Doucet; Bruce Price, Public Works Director, and visitors in the audience. Mayor Wise called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr Price stated that the purpose of tonight's meeting was to review and rank oral presentations submitted in connection with two projects regarding Stormwater Engineering and Boggy Bayou Restoration. Mr Price stated that when this process was initiated we had seven firms who submitted Requests for Qualifications (RFQs). He advised those proposals were scored by myself, Dr Bill McCartney, and Councilman Henkel. The committee narrowed it down to three firms for each project. Since that time one firm has withdrawn from the process. Mr Price stated that tonight we have three firms that will be making presentations who are AVCON Inc who is located here in Niceville. They have submitted proposals for both projects (Thomas Branch Basin Improvements/McEwen SWMF and the Boggy Bayou Headwaters Restorations Project). We also have Baskerville Donovan based out of Pensacola. Their proposal is for the Thomas Branch Basin Improvements. Mr Price stated we also have Cardno, Inc who is based out of Pensacola. Their proposal is for the Boggy Bayou Headwater Restoration project. The council was given evaluation forms for completion regarding the following aspects: by category which included Understanding of the project; Approach to the project; Project Team Capabilities; Related Project Experience; Unique Qualification and Ability to Communicate. Mr Price stated the proposers in attendance will wait on the tile side of the chambers until it's their turn to make their presentation. Mr Price stated that AVCON is scheduled to be first. They have 15 minutes to present their briefing and five minutes is allowed for questions and answers. Discussion followed.

Mr Lee Lewis, P.E. representing AVCON stated he is the Program Manager for the projects. He stated that his firm has been in business since 1998 and moved his office from Okaloosa County to Niceville in 2003 located on Bayshore Drive. He stated his firm offers trusted engineering and planning services; large-scale infrastructure project expertise. He stated that he and his family live in Niceville with two children attending Niceville schools explaining why they are happy to be part of and very much involved with the community. etc. He introduced his Project Manager, Ms Tonia Nation, P.E. who would be involved with the Thomas Branch Project. He also introduced other key

representatives from **Taylor Engineering, Inc.** Founded in 1983; local, Destin office; Coastal and shoreline engineering expertise; **Scheda Ecological Associates, Inc.** Founded in 1990, pointing out they have a local Destin office; he pointed out they have Habitat and environmental restoration expertise. **Gustin, Cothorn & Tucker, Inc.** founded 1921; stated they have a Niceville office since 1990; he stated they have survey & mapping expertise. Mr Lewis provided an overview that included **Project Understanding**, The Thomas Branch Basin; covered key points such as 58+ acres; highly developed; School improvements over steephead and untreated stormwater runoff to Boggy Bayou. **Understanding of Existing Conditions:** such as school runoff characteristics; Comingling of untreated runoff with natural stream; property ownership and heavy vegetation, debris, erosion. **Project Objectives:** to treat and attenuate stormwater/ facilitate a public-private partnership; improve habitat and aesthetics; Introduce educational opportunities and improve economic development opportunities. **Stakeholder Partnership Throughout;** Ruckel Properties, Inc.; Niceville High School; Okaloosa County School District; Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation; Niceville Church of Christ and others. **Project execution Inventory of Basin Characteristics; Alternatives Analysis- On Campus:** Treatment at the source; by using "Green Infrastructure: methods: bio-retention; rain harvesting; and grass swales; inventory of Basin Characteristics, Alternatives Analysis - on Campus; **Alternatives Analysis - McEwen SWMF;** Easement acquisition; Storm water treatment prior to joining stream; Nutrient & sediment separation; Habitat & Stream Restoration. **Traditional Design/Bid/Build Delivery: Project execution.** He briefly highlighted Nutrient Separating Baffle Box; Stream & Habitat Restoration; Educational Opportunities; and Interpretive Sign age. **Anticipated Results:** Nutrient, sediment removal (prior to stream); Public-private partnerships; Reduced downstream flooding; Cost-effective green infrastructure: methods; Stream & habitat enhancements; Educational benefits for schools & Public; Enhanced public image; Commercial benefits: Extended benefits: Management plan; Monitoring program. Bio - retention systems; In addition he covered anticipated results. In summary; he covered the following key points: Comprehensive Understanding; Clear Project Objectives; Public-Private partnerships; Best Interests of the City; Community Showcase; Holistic Project Approach, etc. Councilman Henkel asked how long will it take to complete this project and asked about permitting. Discussion followed. Councilwoman Boudreaux asked about baffle boxes. Discussion followed.

Baskerville Donovan: Mr Fred Donovan, Jr. PE stated they are excited to be able to speak with you tonight about the Thomas Branch Basin Improvements - McEwen SMF project. He introduced Mr Lee Smith, Mr Dave Hemphill and Mr Jim Waite who are here tonight. Mr Donovan stated when you look at a project we feel these are the keys to success on a project. I feel that the consultant you hire to do your Stormwater work needs to be a firm that has some background knowledge. There is a lot of background that goes into it. You have to work in context. I always tell my engineers that - always work in context not

out of context. There is a Master Plan along with a lot of things going on in Niceville. We also feel that the firm you hire should know about the funding aspect of the project and where it came from. There should be people that are familiar with this and how it works. Finally we feel you hire a firm that has some Northwest Florida experience. It's different working in Niceville - a hurricane zone vs somewhere in California. This is a specialty we have at Baskerville Donovan. Technically you have to have someone who knows what they are doing. I have Lee Smith with me tonight who will brief you on the technical aspects of the project. Mr Smith stated he was delighted to be here tonight. He stated that working with Storm water issues is our bread and butter. This is what we specialize in. Mr Smith provided copies of the presentation to the council. He made reference to the Baskerville Organizational Chart. He stated that the City has dealt with Dave Hemphill who has worked for BDI for over 35 years and has a lot of background for you regarding keys to success for this project: **Project background; Project financing:** NW Florida context. He stated that Baskerville Donovan, Inc is unsurpassed in the **NW Florida local government project environment;** such as Regulatory - Better agency relationships means fewer surprises, smoother projects. Geophysical - 88 years working for coastal communities in NW Florida. Contracting - Complex, high-visibility projects, intensive oversight...every day. **Project Background:** He stated that Baskerville Donovan has served the City's engineering needs continuously since the early 1990's including -2000 Storm water Needs Assessment; 2006 Storm water Facilities and Master Plan; 2007 Capital Financing Plan; 2008 Boggy Bayou Restoration Assessment; 2012 Storm water Facilities Plan Update; 2014 NEWF. Grant Application Support; **Project Financing:** Project approach; Results and Deliverables and the bottom line. We are delighted that the City received the grant and will be happy to assist you in administering the grant. He answered several questions from the council. Discussion followed.

AVCON, INC. - Boggy Bayou Headwaters Restoration Project:

Mr Lee Lewis, P.E. stated that he will be the Program Manager for this project as well. He introduced Taylor Engineering, Inc. Project Manager Mr Matt Trammell, P.E.. Founded in 1982, local Destin Office. Coastal and shoreline engineering expertise. He advised they are partnering with Scheda Ecological Associates, Inc. Founded in 1990; local Destin Office who have Habitat and environmental restoration expertise. Gustin, Cothorn & Tucker, Inc. Founded in 1921; Niceville office since 1990 and have survey and mapping expertise. **Project Understanding:** Ecological and Environmental Baseline; Sediment Accretion Analysis; Conceptual Restoration Plan. **Understanding of Existing Conditions:** Water Quality Degradation; Nutrient Loading; Sedimentation; Beneficial Habitat to be Preserved; Exotics & Nuisance Vegetation; Coastal Conditions; and Limited Public Access. **Restoration Objectives:** Sediment removal; Improved flushing; Nutrient uptake. **Improve HABITAT:** Increased wildlife diversity and utilization; Resilient, sustainable living shorelines; Marsh creation: **Enhance RECREATIONAL**

OPPORTUNITIES: Enhanced aesthetics and access for public enjoyment; and Educations opportunities. **PROJECT EXECUTION:** Stakeholder Partnership Throughout Collaborative Regulatory Involvement Targeted Update to Baseline Data: Selective efforts; Cost savings. **Alternatives Analysis:** Holistic approach; Reduced long-term O & M costs. Preliminary **Project Design; Joint Permitting; Traditional Design/Build/Bild Delivery.** **CONCEPTUAL PROJECT DESIGN: Included Saltmarsh Restoration & Living Shorelines; Nuisance & Exotic Species Eradication; Benthic Habitat Restoration; Avian Habitat Restoration; Flow Diversions. Public Access Opportunities:** Boardwalks/Linear Park; Kayak/Paddleboard Launch. Educational Opportunities: Observation Deck; Educational Signage. **CONCEPTUAL PROJECT DESIGN:** Included a variety of photographs of the Shoreline Section; Project Elements: Flow Diversion/Control Structures; Living Shorelines; Linear Park Opportunities; Recreational Opportunities: Handicap Assessable Kayak Launch; Paddlboard/Kayak Launch and Educational Opportunities. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS:** Improved Water Quality; Sediment Removal; Improved Flushing Characteristics; Improved Habitats; Resilient, Sustainable Living Shorelines; Improved Public Access & Recreational Opportunities; Enhanced Educational Opportunities; Enhanced Public Views; Extended Benefits: Management Plan; Monitoring Program. **Summary:** Comprehensive Understanding of Boggy Bayou; Understanding of Project Objectives; Holistic Project Approach; Public/Private Partnerships; Best Interests of the City; Most-Qualified Team; Trusted Local Team: Best value; Vested interest in project success. Questions: The council posed several questions. Discussion followed.

Cardno, Inc. Mr Woody Speed, Project Manager briefed the council on the Design and Permitting for Boggy Bayou Headwaters Restoration Project. He explained the following aspects of his proposal that included the Cardno Project Team; Project Approach, Relevant Project Experience, Expected Results, and the Future of Boggy Bayou. He spoke about Cardno Team Differentiators; Project Approach that included six major tasks such as Task 1: Initial Evaluation - Concept Planning and Stakeholder input. Task 2: Data Collection: Site Survey, Geotechnical and Ecological Studies (as required) Task 3: Design - Final Design and Ecological Monitoring Plan. Task 4: Permitting - ERP/Joint Application Permit; Task 5: Installation and Construction - Design-Bid-Build; and Task 6: Monitoring and Maintenance. Mr Speed's briefing included several examples of completed projects such as the Design and Plating of Pitts Spring and Stream Banks in Northwest Florida; Permitting, creation, planting, monitoring and maintenance of marsh - City of Pensacola Southern Bulkhead; Choctawhatchee Bay Water Quality and Nutrient Loading Study - Okaloosa/Walton Counties, Florida and other examples of the work they have done. Mr Speed answered several questions posed by the council. Discussion followed.

MEETING CONCLUSION:

Mr Price thanked all firms for their proposals and asked the council to consider all proposals and rank them according to the presentation evaluation forms provided. He asked the council to return completed forms no later than Monday in order to allow time for tabulation and final scoring. He stated the results will be presented to the City Council for approval during the March 10, 2015 council meeting.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 710 PM.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK