

**RECORD OF SPECIAL MEETING
ELLSWORTH CITY COUNCIL**

DATE: AUGUST 26, 2019

TIME: 5:30 PM

PLACE: ELLSWORTH CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT: BLANCHETTE, FORTIER, GRINDLE,
HAMILTON, AND PHILLIPS.**

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: HUDSON AND MOORE

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER DAVID COLE, LISA
SEKULICH, AND HEIDI GRINDLE.**

Call to Order.

Chairman Blanchette called the special meeting of the Ellsworth City Council to order at 5:30 PM.

Unfinished Business.

Council Order #081912, Request to approve a contract between the City of Ellsworth and Northern Light Medical Transport that provides quarters at the Ellsworth Fire Department and authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary agreements. (Tabled at the 8/19/2019 Regular Council meeting).

David Cole, City Manager stated the agreement is still with the attorneys for Northern Light; therefore, there is nothing for the Council to consider this evening. Cole suggested this item be tabled tonight. Councilor Fortier wondered if this item should be tabled to a time certain next meeting or table until staff has it prepared for the City Council. Fortier would like a few days to read over the contract before he has it before him for a meeting. Fortier suggested withdrawing it from the agenda this evening.

On a motion by Fortier, seconded by Phillips, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve removing from the agenda Council Order #081912, Request to approve a contract between the City of Ellsworth and Northern Light Medical Transport that provides quarters at the Ellsworth Fire Department and authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary agreements.

After the vote it was noted this will cause the request to come back in its normal sequence at that time. Councilor Hamilton stated in terms of moving forward he is not aware of what is in the revised agreement; however, in advance of seeing the agreement he believes the request was to continue the same arrangement they have had. If there are any significant changes that Northern Light is presenting he would like to have that discussed with Northern Light appearing at a meeting to present the changes to the public and Council in advance of any agreement even being considered. That would be Hamilton's request if they are looking to make any significant changes to the current agreement. Cole stated he is only aware of what went to their attorneys and nothing has been received back yet. Fortier noted he has

Call to Order.

Unfinished Business.

**Approved -
Removing from the
agenda Council
Order #081912,
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Northern Light
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not seen what went to the attorneys. Councilor Phillips confirmed it is the Northern Light attorneys that have the contract at this time and not the City attorneys. Phillips seemed to remember when the City's document went to the attorneys there were not significant changes being proposed. Cole stated to his recollection there were not significant changes being requested, it was a continuation of the current agreement. Hamilton stated the only reason he commented on it was because it should have been a very straight forward process and the fact that the contract is not back makes him wonder if they are considering some changes. Based on this, he would like them to appear before the public so that the public also has a chance to hear any proposal they may have. Cole stated once they have a reply they will bring it immediately to the City Council. Chairman Blanchette felt the delay may be due to August vacation days. Fortier was concerned that he does not remember seeing a proposed contract that would have been sent to the City's attorney for review and in turn the Northern Light attorney. He remembers seeing the continuation of the temporary extension of the previous agreement. Cole noted this process has dragged out for a while, therefore no one remembered seeing the revised edition for the renewal. Fortier would like to see that before it progresses too far. Blanchette remembered having a discussion with Richard Tupper, Fire Chief and there was not anything substantial on the City's part. Cole noted there were no significant changes and the City sent it to their attorney because Northern Light was providing it to their attorneys. Cole recalled it was taking the existing agreement and putting it into an annual agreement. If there are any changes, the document will be brought back to the Finance Committee first and then for a final decision at a Council meeting where someone will be present to explain the proposed agreement. The hope was there would not be any major changes proposed.

New Business.

Council Order #081913, Request of the Public Works Director to award a bid to purchase road salt for the 2019-2020 winter season.

Lisa Sekulich, Public Works Director explained in past years the City was part of a county-wide bid process through the Hancock Planning Commission. Due to their current status, the City of Ellsworth had to bid out the purchase of salt on their own. Since that point, multiple communities have reached out to the City, as we are the largest municipality in the county and therefore purchase the largest quantity of salt; they were hoping the City might put together a bid that would include the other towns within Hancock County. This year there was not enough time to create such a

New Business.

Approved - Council Order #081913, Request of the Public Works Director to award the FY2020 Winter Salt Supply contract to New England Salt Co. at \$50.40 per ton of delivered road salt.

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bid document. It is something that the City may consider in the future if the Planning Commission does not rebound. A county-wide bid maybe an option with the City championing the process since the City does purchase the majority of salt within the County. Sekulich thought the bid results were very good considering the City went out to bid on their own. The bids came in less than what Bar Harbor paid last year; however, it is slightly more than what the City of Ellsworth paid last year. See attachment # 1 for the complete request and bid results. Councilor Phillips inquired what the City paid last year for salt. Sekulich stated the City paid approximately \$47.90 per ton last year and the low bid this year was \$50.40. This was not a bad price considering the City is not in a group purchase this year. Sekulich noted Bernie Hussey, Highway Foreman has worked with New England Salt Co in the past and noted it was a good working relationship, they are were very responsive to requests. They have been the low bidder in past years for the county-wide bid. Last year, Morton Salt was the supplier under the county-wide bid process. The City decided not to join with the DOT, as historically that price has been higher. Cole noted Sekulich recommended the right course of action and the bids came in favorable. Chairman Blanchette noted the price is approximately a 5.2% increase over the price from last year.

On a motion by Phillips, seconded by Fortier, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve Council Order #081913, Request of the Public Works Director to award the FY2020 Winter Salt Supply contract to New England Salt Co. at \$50.40 per ton of delivered road salt. The Contract amount to be funded from the Highway Department operating budget.

Council Order #081914, Request of the Public Works Director to award the maintenance paving contract.

Lisa Sekulich, Public Works Director stated on August 21, 2019 there was a bid opening for maintenance paving. 6 RFP's were requested and only 2 bids were received back. See attachment #2 for the complete request and bid results. The low bid was within \$4,000 of Sekulich's original bid estimate. In consideration of the cost of asphalt increasing significantly this year, the low bid was a great price. Wellman was awarded the bid last year, did a good job, and Sekulich did not have any concerns with them. She is recommending Wellman again this year based on the bid results, if the Council is in agreement. Phillips inquired when they would start. Sekulich has not had a scheduling discussion yet as she was waiting for the Council to award the bid first. Last year, they were fairly responsive and paving

The Contract amount to be funded from the Highway Department operating budget.

Approved - Council Order #081914, Request of the Public Works Director to award the FY2020 Maintenance paving contract to Wellman Paving, Inc. per the attached pricing (attachment #2). The Contract amount to be funded from the Local Roads Capital

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started mid-September. The bid documents contain a timeline based on temperature, date range of June 15 through October 15 and April 15 through June 30 or as allowed by the Public Works Director. Phillips inquired if the intention was to complete the maintenance paving before winter. Sekulich noted it was not the intention to complete all of it before winter. The goal is to complete Branch Pond and Winkumpaugh Road before winter and with the possibility a third road. The rest will be completed in the spring. Branch Pond and Winkumpaugh are both reclaim jobs and the other is a mill and fill project. Branch Pond and Winkumpaugh will be completed first because the company will want to bring the Reclaimer in once as well as they are in the worst condition for plowing. Phillips agreed Wellman did a good job last year and the difference in bid price could not be justified in awarding it to the high bidder. They also worked well with the City when a project last year took longer to complete. Councilor Fortier asked if before the City puts money into Franklin Street could Sekulich as an engineer look at the drainage at the crosswalk beside 86This!; the basin appears to be higher than the low spot. It was noted the same problem is apparent in front of Elizabeth's in the opposite corner. Sekulich stated she could review those two areas. A similar problem was resolved on Hancock Street last year. Fortier would love to see this problem resolved before the roads are repaved.

**Improvement
Account (9090900-
59001).**

On a motion by Fortier, seconded by Grindle, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve Council Order #081914, Request of the Public Works Director to award the FY2020 Maintenance paving contract to Wellman Paving, Inc. per the attached pricing (attachment #2). The Contract amount to be funded from the Local Roads Capital Improvement Account (9090900-59001).

Adjournment.

On a motion by Fortier, seconded by Phillips, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to approve adjournment at 5:41 PM.

A TRUE COPY

**ATTEST: _____
HEIDI-NOËL GRINDLE**

**Approved -
Adjournment at 5:41
PM.**