

**RECORD OF SPECIAL MEETING
ELLSWORTH CITY COUNCIL**

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2018

TIME: 5:11 PM

PLACE: ELLSWORTH CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:

**KEY SPEAKERS PRESENT: CITY MANAGER DAVID COLE, TAMMY MOTE,
LISA SEKULICH, KELLY HERRICK, MICHELE GAGNON, STEVE FULLER,
ADAM WILSON, BERNIE HUSSEY, AND HEIDI GRINDLE.**

Call to Order.

Chairman Blanchette called the special meeting of the Ellsworth City Council to order at 5:11 PM.

Council Order #111802, Request of the Public Works Director to purchase a 2019 new chassis, cab, body, sander, and plow gear from Daigle Houghton.

Lisa Sekulich, Public Works Director directed the Council's attention to attachment #1 which contains the request, a prior memo explaining this purchase, the list of highway equipment including the age of each piece, sales quote from Daigle & Houghton, proposal describing the Western Star 4700 SF, as well as the information on the 2019 International HV507 SFA. Sekulich explained the original memo dated October 31, 2018 (attachment #1) is a breakdown of the current status for the highway fleet and provides a background on why this piece of equipment is being requested at this time. She explained 6 out of the 10 big trucks are 8 years old or older. The current backup truck is 20 years old. At this time the confidence level is low whether this reserve truck could sustain plowing the entire season should one of the other trucks fail. Sekulich is requesting to outright purchase a truck from Daigle Houghton. HP Fairfield and Viking were also approached to see if they had a truck readily available. Daigle and Houghton has two trucks at this time; one is currently ready and the other will be ready at the end of the month. The request this evening is to purchase the 2019 Western Star plow truck outright to be ready by the end of the month. This will update the fleet and provide a backup truck that is reliable for the winter months if needed. Councilor Fortier noted technically this request is to sole source as the purchase did not go out to bid. He noted the motion should include language to indicate this is a violation of the City's purchasing agreement; however, because of the circumstances the Council has elected to purchase this equipment as a sole source. Fortier felt it was important to note as part of the record; purchases this large are required by the purchasing policy to go out to bid. Fortier noted he has been a supporter of trying to update this fleet. This case is much like the situation a few years back concerning the Police Department; after a larger purchase than normal that fleet is back up to an adequate level. The fleet is now better cared for with fewer breakdowns and the equipment is under warranty longer because of fewer miles being put on the vehicles. Fortier believes sole sourcing this purchase now makes sense and then over the next few months figure

Call to Order.

Approved - Council Order #111802, the purchase of a 2019 Western Star plow truck with plow, wing, and dump body from Daigle Houghton for a sum of \$168,045 with funds from the Highway Capital Improvement account (9090900-59004).

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out how the City can finance another truck over a couple of years to allow another truck to be in the pipeline. This plan should allow the City to have another truck by September so that it will be ready for the next winter. If the City ordered a truck right now it would not be available until September 2019; if the City waits until July (new fiscal year) the truck will not be available until April. Fortier noted the City needs to find a way financially to get caught up with the plow stock; therefore Fortier was in support of this sole source purchase and the ongoing attempt to get the equipment up to speed. Councilor Phillips inquired if this truck would have a "Pusher X". This truck would not have a "Pusher X" as it is not needed. Phillips inquired if the body was another universal body similar to what has been purchased in prior years. Sekulich noted this will be a side dump body with the tracks along the side, the interior part of the body dumping to the conveyer on the side and that is where the salt comes out. This also has the ability to dump like a regular dump with the back hatch that opens. There is no need for a separate sander. Phillips noted the City already owns one or two trucks with the universal body system and inquired if they are working well and efficiently. It was noted the Highway Department has had good luck with this style. The capacity seems adequate; it was noted this truck will have a higher capacity than is available with the two in the current fleet. Bernie Hussey, Highway Foreman noted the two the City currently owns do not require a "Pusher X". This will be a single axle, leaf spring, with a heated windshield and a few other options. Phillips felt this was a good choice. Councilor Hamilton noted this purchase was budgeted for as part of the Capital Improvement requests during the budget cycle for the current fiscal year. Sekulich confirmed the budget included the purchase of a replacement single axle truck; at some point she may return for a conversation on purchasing a second truck which was part of the original memo dated on October 31, 2018. David Cole, City Manager noted technically this request will be a sole source purchase; however, under many procurement policies Municipalities or State agencies can request direct quotes. In this case, the City solicited quotes from at least two parties and there was only one situation where a truck was all ready to meet the City's needs. The City is in a situation where they need a truck and they need it now. Sekulich noted Hussey spoke with the local vendor, they understood the current need, and they will be given the opportunity to bid on the next truck. Hamilton inquired about the plan for the truck that is being replaced. Sekulich explained the 1998 truck will be taken out of service and be disposed of, the second oldest truck (2004) will be moved to a backup truck status (it was recently repaired for a reasonable amount of money), and the new truck will be assigned to the Happytown Road/North Bend Road/Bucksport Road end of town route. Fortier reminded the City Council that

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part of this purchase is dictated by a truck being totaled on the Winkumpaugh Road last winter; therefore, the City is already down a truck not from poor maintenance, or long-term use. There is \$45,000 built into the budget from the insurance claim to be added to the approximately \$100,000 to purchase this truck. This truck is not a scheduled replacement it is more of an unexpected purchase based on an unforeseen circumstance. Sekulich explained the truck that would have been gained was essentially taken away because one needed to be replaced as a result of an accident. The expected lifespan for this type of truck is 6 to 7 years based on the electronic components being jarred during the normal course of use and the corrosive nature of the weather.

On a motion by Hudson, seconded by Moore, it was

RESOLVED to approve Council Order #111802, the purchase of a 2019 Western Star plow truck with plow, wing, and dump body from Daigle Houghton for a sum of \$168,045 with funds from the Highway Capital Improvement account (9090900-59004).

Fortier inquired if the motion should include language that this is a sole source purchase for the sake of the auditors. Tammy Mote, Deputy City Manager noted that was not necessary the minutes will reflect the explanation for it being a sole source purchase.

A final vote was taken with all members voting unanimously in favor.

Adjournment.

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

RESOLVED to approve adjournment at 5:23 PM.

A TRUE COPY

**ATTEST: _____
HEIDI-NOËL GRINDLE**

**Approved -
Adjournment at 5:23
PM.**