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**BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT
MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022**

Call to Order: At 4:10 pm by Chairwoman Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard

Board Members Present: Comptroller Darren Morton, City Council President Derrick Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard (remote on zoom) (we have a quorum).

Others: City Clerk Tanesia M. Walters, Chief of Staff Kristen Reed; Corporation Counsel Brian Johnson

Absent: None

MEETING NOTICE: Clerk Walters read the meeting notice at 4:11 pm.

OPENING OF BIDS:

Clerk Walters read the first bid “bid for cleaning and maintenance of various city-owned buildings located in the City of Mount Vernon, NY”. This bid notice was advertised on May 24th and June 1st of May 2022 in the Journal News.

There were five bid documents picked up, and one bid document received in response. Corporation Counsel Brian Johnson opened the received bid from UAL Global Incorporated located at 162 Lake Avenue, Tuckahoe, NY. Corporation Counsel reviewed the documents and noted the bid is for \$375,000, but the 5% bid bond was not included.

The second bid to be opened is for “42nd West Broad Street: ADA Improvement, signal upgrade and pavement marking improvement within the City of Mount Vernon, NY.” This bid notice was advertised on May 24th and June 1st of May 2022 in the Journal News.

Clerk Walters noted that there were 14 bid documents downloaded from BidNet Direct, but we have not received any responses to this bid request.

That concludes the opening of the BIDs.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call and reading of agenda items administered by City Clerk Tanesia M. Walters

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS APPROVING ORDINANCES:

Item No. 1 Granting permission for one (1) councilmember to attend the NYCOM Community Revitalization Conference in Syracuse, NY (June 8th through June 9, 2022 – not to exceed

\$1,200.00 to be satisfied through Budget Code A1010.417, Education Training and Budget Code A1010.402, Travel Expense).

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 2 Authorizing the Department of Management Services to purchase 100 Lenovo ThinkPads for City Hall and the Police Department using ARPA funds (Budget Code: H1680.203.C927 ARPA – Technology Digital Services - \$195,000.00).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson Howard remarked that the American Rescue Plan Funds are in place to help cities recover and upgrade technology and security. The City has computer user end-agreements, and property is tracked and managed

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 3 Authorizing the Department of Public Works to purchase 2,000 City-owned recycle bins using ARPA funds (American Rescue Plan – Negative Economic Impacts – Streetscape Litter Reduction – A8170.447ARP - \$59,850.00).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson Howard noted these funds are being utilized to increase recycling compliance in the city. Comptroller Morton remarked that the budget line is targeted towards streetscapes and litter, he asked if anything else would be coming out of that budget line towards litter reduction.

Response: Chairwoman Patterson Howard noted the purchase of new garbage cans distributed across the city. And distinguished that these recycle bins will distributed to homeowners on a first-come, first-serve basis to encourage appropriate recycling practices.

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 4 Granting permission to the Department of Recreation along with the MV Police Department to co-sponsor “Rolling into Peace” in Hartley Park for Juneteenth (June 19, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Budget Code: A7310.104 –\$5,000.00).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard remarked that this initiative is a collaboration between the City and community partners like SNUG Street Outreach program and the Youth Shelter, the Wellness Division of the MVPD, the PDC Foundation. This is a part of our month-long gun violence awareness initiative. She invited the public to participate.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 5 **Authorizing the Youth Bureau’s CAPP Program (Comprehensive Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention) to host the 2nd annual “Let Your Colors Shine” Pride Day event (City Hall Plaza on Thursday, June 23, 2022. \$3,000.00 - Budget Code: A7321.458, CAPP).**

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard expressed that Mount Vernon is an inclusive community and invited the public to participate.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 6 **Granting permission to one (1) member, Keisha Kendley, Mount Vernon Youth Bureau - CAPP Program Director, to attend the 21st annual CADCA Mid-Year Conference (Kissimmee, FL from Sunday, July 17 – Friday, July 22, 2022. \$850.00 - Budget Code: A7321.402, CAPP).**

On the Question: This is a national conference to address teen substance abuse, and the information will be used to provide resources and support to Mount Vernon young people and their families.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 7 **Authorizing the Fire Department to purchase fifteen (15) sets of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA’s) and Regulators with ARPA funds (\$113,331.30 – Budget Line American Rescue HA3410.203 C929 PHA004).**

On the Question: Comptroller Morton noted an edit that it should actually say “H3410.203 C929” and that the “PHA004” is the project code and not a part of the budget code.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

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- Item No. 8** **Authorizing and directing the City Comptroller to condemn and dispose of four (4) City-owned vehicles / fire apparatus and accept funds for the disposal thereof - (\$8,200.00 – Revenue Fund A2650, Sales of Scrap and Excess).**
- On the Question:** Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted we are deaccessioning these old vehicles and receiving funds for the scrap metal.
- Response:**
- Ayes:** Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard
- Nays:** None
- Item No. 9** **Authorizing the Department of Planning & Community Development to release a request for proposals (“RFP”) for consulting services for the preparation update to the City of Mount Vernon Comprehensive Plan and Amendment to Zoning Code.**
- On the Question:** Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted the City has not ratified nor adopted a comprehensive plan since 1968, and unfortunately the City did not follow the recommendations in that plan and it has impacted our neighborhoods adversely. There are monies allocated and budgeted, along with grant funding to support a new comprehensive plan that will support smart, equitable growth.
- Response:**
- Ayes:** Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard
- Nays:** None
- Item No. 10** **(AMENDMENTS) Amending Ordinance No. 11, adopted on February 23, 2022, entitled “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DISPOSE OF VEHICLES ASSIGNED TO THE MOUNT VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT MOTOR POOL AND ACCEPT FUNDS FOR THE DISPOSAL THEREOF - (\$16,450.00 – Revenue Fund A2650, Sales of Scrap and Excess).**
- On the Question:** Comptroller Morton asked what the amendment was.
- Response:** Chief Reed responded that the original scrap price was \$8,200 less than what we will be reimbursed for through this amended item.
- Ayes:** Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard
- Nays:** None
- Item No. 11** **(SETTLEMENTS) American Traffic Solutions, Inc. doing business as Verra Mobility - Pre-Suit settlement of outstanding balance due for photo enforcement program also referred to as the Red Light Camera Program (\$895,492.00 payable in twelve (12) equal monthly installments, effective July 1, 2022, through June 1, 2023. Budget Code A1930.494, Judgments & Settlements, 2022 Budget).**

On the Question: Comptroller Morton remarked that over the last six months the Comptroller's Office has been actively cleaning up remaining financial issues from the predecessor Comptroller. We have been in conversation with this vendor, they were not paid last year by the prior Comptroller. Prior to a lawsuit being filed, we entered into a payment agreement, which will save us upwards of \$100,000, and it also gives the City the opportunity to pay this off and not impact our cash flow. As we move towards the budgeting process, we need to keep these payments in minds. For at least 6 months into 2023, we are adding a \$73,000+ expense to the budget.

Corporation Counsel has worked with the Comptroller to mitigate these outstanding debts and attempting to forego protracted lawsuit.

Chairwoman Patterson-Howard spoke about the speed camera initiative as a traffic control and traffic calming mechanism.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

FURTHER BUSINESS:

Councilman Thompson expressed to Chairwoman Patterson-Howard to feel better, as she was under the weather. Chairwoman Patterson Howard invited the public to a conversation at the MV Public Library for a conversation on gun violence with community partners, and also a Citywide Juneteenth celebration at Brush Park, and the "Rolling Into Peace" roller-skating event at Hartley Park. Chief Reed reminded everyone that the City Hall building will be closed on Monday in observation of Juneteenth, and the Mayor noted that weekly sanitation schedule would be amended.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Thompson. Seconded by Comptroller Morton. A Roll Call was made by Clerk Walters: **Ayes:** Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson, and Chairwoman Patterson-Howard. **Nays:** None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Donna M. Jackson, M.Ed.,
Deputy City Clerk
Entered August 17, 2022