

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for December 10, 2012

as of December 10, 2012 at 5:16am

Consent Agenda:

Alderman: Bernie Anderson

Question/Comment: I have no questions at this time related to the consent agenda.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 7D: Analysis of Bids for two (2) Falcon Asphalt Heating Units for the Streets & Sewers Division of Public Works

Question/Comment: Why were there no competitive bids?

Staff Response: The City used the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Contract (as indicated under "Recommendation"), which is a competitive bid process.

Regular Agenda:

Alderwoman: Judy Stearns

Item 8B: Adoption of the 2012 Tax Levy for \$23,185,833 as estimated or the Reduces Levy Option

Question/Comment: Can we legally vote on this with the late publication?

Staff Response: Legally the topic having been put on the agenda is enough notice to satisfy the open meetings act.

Alderwoman: Judy Stearns

Item 8C: Abatements of debt service for the 2012 Tax Levy

Question/Comment: Can we legally vote on this with the late publication?

Staff Response: Legally the topic having been put on the agenda is enough notice to satisfy the open meetings act.

Alderman: Rob Fazzini

Item 8D: Paradigm BioAviation Presentation – Waste to Jet Fuel Development Proposal

Questions/Comments:

1. Should we ask the company to provide more detail/justification for the statement that the project will employ 440 to 1,600 people?
 - a. **Staff Response:** The employment rates provided are based on the project having two (2) phases; a small plant and a large scale facility. Further explanation should be provided within the presentation given to the City Council on December 10, 2012 and Staff encourages aldermen to pose questions of Paradigm and its representatives at that time. Following tonight's presentation, City Staff will work cooperatively with Paradigm and the EDC to initiate the necessary due diligence. Given the multi-jurisdictional nature of the project, ample time and consideration will be given to this and other specific elements, should the Council be supportive of moving forward with the concept.
2. When will we be given some information regarding the company ability to finance this venture?
 - a. **Staff Response:** During an EDC committee meeting earlier this year, Paradigm officials provided an overview of the project cost and potential funding sources, details which should be shared during tonight's presentation. It is our understanding that Paradigm is in the process of seeking partnerships with federal entities and is waiting until such time as those funds are awarded before providing any final analysis. Staff encourages aldermen to pose this and related questions to Paradigm's officials during the presentation given on December 10, 2012. After tonight, City Staff will work cooperatively with Paradigm and the EDC to initiate the necessary due diligence. Given the multi-jurisdictional nature of the project, ample time and consideration will be given to this and other specific elements, should the Council be supportive of moving forward with the concept.

Prepared by: Barbara J. Adkins, Deputy City Manager