

City of Darien
Minutes of the Administrative/Finance Committee
May 6, 2024

Chairwoman/Alderwoman Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Committee members Leganski and Schauer was present. Also in attendance was City Administrator Vana, Treasurer Coren and Mayor Marchese.

Motion to approve one electronics recycling event with the city’s current refuse hauler, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC (LRS) in an amount not to exceed \$9,400

Staff advised the City sponsored one electronic recycling event for Darien residents in FYE24. This event allowed residents to place their electronics curbside for pick up by LRS. The fee charged by LRS is based on the bill count. The cost per home is \$1.26. This event has been well received by the residents and was very convenient for them. The FYE25 budget includes \$9,400 for this program. The committee unanimously recommended approval of a motion to approve one electronics-recycling event with the city’s current refuse hauler, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC (LRS) in an amount not to exceed \$9,400

Approval of a motion authorizing the city administrator to sign a contract for the best bid for street light electric supply

Staff advised the city pays for streetlights that we own. Our annual light accounts with NIMEC expire this July and will be a part of our upcoming group bid. This year’s NIMEC group bid will take place on Tuesday May 21, 2024. The challenge of approving the bid is a timing issue. The bid prices are only good for the day they are opened. Typically, the city council would approve the city administrator to sign a contract with the low bidder. Staff advised the city would participate with NIMEC again to solicit prices. As a reminder, NIMEC is an intergovernmental purchasing group of over 170+ municipal and non-profit organizations that conduct joint bids for electric supply rates. Staff has also invited Navigate Power to submit a proposal. Navigate Power contacted me previously asking to be considered for a bid. The committee unanimously recommended approval of a motion authorizing the city administrator to sign a contract for the best bid for street light electric supply.

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement extension with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC. (MC2) to provide full-requirements electricity supply and related services for the City’s Electric Aggregation Program.

Staff advised in 2012, Darien residents approved a referendum authorizing the City to operate an opt-out electric aggregation program for resident and small business ratepayers. NIMEC serves as our consultant for the procurement of power for our water pumping facilities and street lighting power. They also manage the bids for our municipal

aggregation program. The city periodically reviews rates offered by electrical providers other than ComEd. Currently ComEd provides the electrical power to Darien. NIMEC has recently solicited proposals for lower rates but could not find a rate lower than ComEd. However, NIMEC has obtained a proposal from MC2 that matches the ComEd rate but also includes a civic contribution payment of \$10,000 to the city. This agreement is for 12 months and NIMEC will continue to review electric rates for savings to the community. The committee unanimously recommended approval of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC. (MC2) to provide full-requirements electricity supply and related services for the City's Electric Aggregation Program.

Minutes – February 5, 2024 - The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Other Business

Administrator Vana updated the committee on the discussions with the park district to use Westwood Park for the Darien Fest and Summer Concert Series. As of today's date, there has been little progress and/or resolution in the city's request to hold Darien fest and our summer concert series at Westwood Park. What should be an easy process between two local government groups has become an extremely difficult process and the park district is demanding unreasonable insurance limits of \$3,000,000 for all fest participants including local service organizations, businesses participating in a business expo and other low risk activities.

Administrator Vana advised the current budget had a formula error in the capital projects fund and did not carry over the correct beginning fund balance in the FYE 26 forecast column. The formula error does not affect the approved FYE 25 budget and will be corrected going forward.

Mayor Marchese advised he is working on a committee revision to combine the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Economic Development Committee. Mayor Marchese explained his reasoning and the committee thought it would be a good revision.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Sullivan, Chairwoman _____

Ted Schauer, Member _____

Gerry Leganski, Member _____