

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public & Industrial Improvements Committee

April 4, 2022

Members: Meika Penta, Chair
Frank Stams
Adam Miller

Mrs. Penta called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of March 21, 2022, Public Improvements Committee were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-33

Temp. Ord. A-34

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-33

An ordinance amending Ordinance 40-2021 to authorize the Director of Public Service to enter into a License Agreement with AMP Transmission, LLC for the AMPT 69 kV Conversion Project, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Anthony Zumbo, Service Director, presented Temporary Ordinance A-33 to Council. Cuyahoga Falls City Council passed Ordinance 40-2021 on June 14, 16 2021 and the scope of work approved in the initial License Agreement has changed, necessitating City Council to approve an updated Agreement. The prior License Agreement signed and dated July 28, 2021 authorized AMP Transmission, LLC (AMPT) to conduct a detailed assessment of three possible routes for a 69 kV transmission line through the city to determine the feasibility of the project, As a consequence of the initial study, the City and AMPT agree that existing municipal infrastructure on those three routes cannot accommodate the entire 69 kV transmission line and associated upgrades and, consequently, AMPT will undertake a more detailed assessment to identify additional possible route(s) for a 69 kV transmission line through the City including cost estimates delineating AMPT and the City's assets and cost responsibilities.

The Director of Public Service will be authorized to update the License Agreement for the AMP Transmission, LLC (AMPT) 69 kV Conversion Project and will be further authorized to execute and deliver any and all documents necessary to complete the AMPT 69 kV Conversion Project. The Mayor, Director of Public Service, Director of Finance, Director of Law and any other public officials, individually or collectively as may be appropriate, will be authorized to prepare and execute such other documents and do all other things as necessary or incidental to carrying out the intent and/or requirements of the License Agreement and/or the AMPT 69 kV Conversion Project.

Mr. Stams asked that this ordinance be tabled for a week so it could be discussed with Mr. Zumbo.

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Mr. Balthis thanked the Administration for the heads-up in terms of electronic vehicles and making sure the City's infrastructure is ready for future needs. He asked if AMPT be responsible for the monitoring and regulation of the transmission lines or is that something that the City would do. Mr. Zumbo stated that since the lines are 69 kV, they are considered transmission costs and transmission lines, so it would fall under those NERC and FERC requirements. They decided that it would not be best for Cuyahoga Falls, because one of the requirements is 24-hour monitoring of those lines, and the City is not equipped for that. That is why the City sold those lines to First Energy three years ago. AMPT would be responsible for that monitoring work and the City's portion would be the maintenance.

Mr. Balthis asked if the Administration sees any challenges or problems, such as timing requirements, with holding this legislation to a special committee meeting on Monday and passing it on Monday. Mr. Zumbo stated that he is not aware of there being an immediate need, but he would like to get it moving forward so that AMPT can produce their route. It is going to take a little bit of time to do that, and they are waiting on passage of this to move forward

Mr. James stated that if Mr. Stams wants to discuss some information with Mr. Zumbo over the week, he does not see any reason why they would not bring the ordinance out of committee tonight. Mr. Stams would get his answers during the course of the week and then can vote on it however he wants to at the Council meeting. Mrs. Penta stated that that was her logic also. She wants to make sure all questions and information is handled. Mr. Stams stated that he is not sure it should be discussed a week from tonight, and that is why he would like to talk to Mr. Zumbo and would not second the motion tonight.

Mrs. Penta stated that the Committee could vote whether or not to hold it, and can proceed with it going to Council. Mr. Stams stated they can go ahead and bring it out tonight in good faith that he will be able to discuss it with Mr. Zumbo. Mrs. Penta stated that they will make sure everyone has their questions answered and all the information needed for the vote next Monday.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-33 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Stams. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-34

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, with GPD Associates for professional engineering services for the improvements to Cochran Road, from State Road to Cavalier Trail, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance A-34 to Council. The City followed the procedures set forth in Ohio Revised Code Sections 153.65 to 153.73 in selecting a professional design services firm to assist with the improvement to Cochran Road, from State Road to Cavalier Trail. After review of all the proposals submitted to the City, GPD Associates was selected as the most qualified for the project. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, with GPD Associates for

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professional engineering services for the improvements to Cochran Road, from State Road to Cavalier Trail. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Capital Projects Fund, Line Item, Capital Outlay.

Mr. Demasi stated that passage of this ordinance would allow engineering and design to start this spring and be completed by December 2022, with bids for the project to go out in early 2023.

Mr. Brillhart thanked the Administration and Mr. Demasi for this important project. Most of the residents in Ward 5 are going to be excited and it will be a great improvement.

Mr. Balthis also thanked the Administration for the project. It is great they will be able to address the storm water issue. There is some opportunity for development on Cochran Road, and it is good that the City is moving forward with this.

Mr. Stams moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-34 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.