

OSCAR LEESER
MAYOR

CARY WESTIN
INTERIM CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL
BRIAN KENNEDY, DISTRICT 1
ALEXSANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3
JOE MOLINAR, DISTRICT 4
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY HALL, 300 N. CAMPBELL
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR AND VIRTUAL
July 10, 2023
10:30 AM**

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The City Council of the City of El Paso met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Aleksandra Annello, Cassandra Hernandez, Joe Molinar, Isabel Salcido, Henry Rivera, and Chris Canales. Art Fierro requested to be excused.
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AGENDA

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- ITEM:** Discussion and action on the award of Solicitation 2023-0258 Collector and above Street Resurfacing 2023 to International Eagle Enterprises, Inc. for an estimated amount of \$18,285,400.00 for a total term of seven hundred thirty (730) consecutive calendar days. This contract will allow the City to provide a new asphaltic riding surface to project locations, to include Street Rights of Way as needed, as well as repair of damaged concrete parkway structures and ancillary items such as roadway striping and markings as needed.

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Annello, Hernandez, and Canales commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Mr. Richard Bristol, Streets and Maintenance Director
- Ms. Claudia Garcia, Purchasing and Strategic Sourcing Assistant Director
- Ms. Nicole Cote, Purchasing and Strategic Sourcing and Office of Management and Budget Managing Director

The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Bruce Koehler, legal counsel for ZTEX Construction
2. Mr. Joaquin Royo, representative for ZTEX Construction
3. Ms. Lisa Turner

1ST MOTION

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annello, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried to **POSTPONE** the item to the **July 18, 2023**, Regular City Council meeting.

AYES: Representatives Annello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, and Rivera

NAYS: Representatives Kennedy and Canales

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

2ND MOTION

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annello, seconded by Representative Kennedy, and unanimously carried to **RECONSIDER** the item.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

3RD AND FINAL MOTION

Motion made by Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore Molinar, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** Solicitation 2023-0258-0258 Collector and above Street Resurfacing 2023 to International Eagle Enterprises, Inc. for an estimated amount of \$18,285,400.00 for a total term of seven hundred thirty (730) consecutive calendar days. This contract will allow the City to provide a new asphaltic riding surface to project locations, to include Street Rights of Way as needed, as well as repair of damaged concrete parkway structures and ancillary items such as roadway striping and markings as needed.

Department:	Streets and Maintenance
Award To:	International Eagle Enterprises Inc. El Paso, TX
Item(s):	All
Initial Term:	730 Consecutive Calendar Days
Total Estimated Award:	\$18,285,400.00
Funding Sources:	Street Maintenance Funds 2022 Community Progress Bond Top 50 Arterials 2022 Community Progress Bond Residentials General Funds
Accounts:	532-2560-32120-522270-PCP23STY4RES 190-4825-29110-580270-PCP23STMSTRART 190-4825-29110-522270-PCP23STMSTRRES 532-1000-32040-522270-P3230
District(s):	All

This is Competitive Sealed Proposal, unit price contract.

The Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing and Streets and Maintenance Departments recommend award as indicated to International Eagle Enterprises Inc, the highest ranked offeror.

It is requested that the City Manager be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of this award.

Work under this unit price contract is only an estimated value and will be ordered, performed, invoiced, and paid by measured quantity. The actual cost of this contract may be higher or lower than the total estimated value and will be the sum total of unit prices at the end of the contract term.

As a part of this award, upon the review of the City Attorney, the City Engineer may without further authorization from City Council approve contract changes which are necessary for

proper execution of the work and carrying out the intent of the project, which are in accordance with applicable law, do not make changes to the prices and are within the appropriate budget.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Hernandez Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

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2. **ITEM:** Discussion and action on the award of solicitation 2023-0267 Residential Street Resurfacing to ALLIED PAVING CO. OF EL PASO, INC. dba Allied Paving Company for a total estimated award of \$15,766,286.60. The contract will allow the City to provide a new asphaltic riding surface to the project Residential Streets, as well as repair of damaged concrete structures and other ancillary items such as roadway striping and markings as needed.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Bruce Koehler, legal counsel for ZTEX Construction
2. Mr. Joaquin Royo, representative for ZTEX Construction
3. Mr. Michael McLean, legal counsel for Allied Paving

1ST MOTION

Motion made by Representative Salcido, seconded by Representative Rivera, and unanimously carried that the City Council **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 11:13 a.m. pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 - 551.089 to discuss the item:

Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

2ND MOTION

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Molinar, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 11:59 a.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council at which time a motion was made.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

3RD AND FINAL MOTION

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Annello, seconded by Representative Kennedy, and unanimously carried to **AWARD** Solicitation 2023-0267 Residential Street Resurfacing to ALLIED PAVING CO. OF EL PASO, INC. dba Allied Paving Company for a total estimated award of \$15,766,286.60. The contract will allow the City to provide a new asphaltic riding surface to the project Residential Streets, as well as repair of damaged concrete structures and other ancillary items such as roadway striping and markings as needed.

Department: Streets and Maintenance

Award To: ALLIED PAVING CO. OF EL PASO, INC. dba Allied Paving Company
 El Paso, TX

Item(s): All

Initial Term: 730 Consecutive Calendar Days

Base Bid: \$15,766,286.60

Total Estimated Award: \$15,766,286.60

Funding Source: Street Maintenance Funds
 2022 Community Progress Bond Top 50 Arterials
 2022 Community Progress Bond Residentials General Funds

Account: 522270-532-2560-32120-PCP23STY4RES
 580270-190-4825-29110-PCP23STMSTRART
 522270-190-4825-29110-PCP23STMSTRRES
 522270-532-1000-32040-P3230

District(s): All

This is Competitive Sealed Proposal, unit price contract.

The Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing and Streets and Maintenance Departments recommend award as indicated to ALLIED PAVING CO. OF EL PASO, INC. dba Allied Paving Company, the highest ranked offeror.

It is requested that the City Manager be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary for execution of this award.

Work under this unit price contract is only an estimated value and will be ordered, performed, invoiced, and paid by measured quantity. The actual cost of this contract may be higher or lower than the total estimated value and will be the sum total of unit prices at the end of the contract term.

As a part of this award, upon the review of the City Attorney, the City Engineer may without further authorization from City Council approve contract changes which are necessary for proper execution of the work and carrying out the intent of the project, which are in accordance with applicable law, do not make changes to the prices and are within the appropriate budget.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Annello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

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The Special Meeting was **RECESSED** at 1:30 p.m. for lunch.

The City Council Meeting was **RECONVENED** at 2:38 p.m.

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3. **For discussion and action: FY 2023 - 2024 Budget as presented by the Interim City Manager. Discussion and action may include, but not limited to operating, capital and debt budgets and all possible funding sources.**

- **Interim City Manager Overview**

Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and provided Council members

with an overview of the FY2024 budget presentations. Some of the highlights discussed were budget recommendations based on Council direction such as the lowering of property taxes. Mr. Westin pointed out a continuous sales tax growth while adding that there was no plan to issue debt as there was enough cash to continue with existing projects. He added that public safety and workforce retention remained a priority along with street resurfacing /reconstruction, traffic safety initiatives, the Children's Museums, Mexican American Cultural Center and the Zoo's penguin exhibit.

Mr. Westin ended his portion of the presentation by sharing the results of the *Chime-In* responses submitted by the community reflecting quality of life as the number one priority, followed by public safety. Other responses included parks and recreation, police services, and economic development, focusing on new job opportunities for El Pasoans.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, continued with the presentation, concentrating on revenue, and talked about sales tax collections for next year estimated to increase by 22%, and the additional \$1.2M in revenue resulting from the boundary modification of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 10, and mentioned a projected increase in franchise fees.

Ms. Nicole Cote, Office of Management and Budget Managing Director, provided a briefing on the expenditures section of the budget and an overview of the general fund expenses by goal and category; she mentioned that salaries and wages make up the majority of the general fund expenses and the major variances were due to police, fire, and civilian compensation increases.

Additionally, Ms. Cote provided a multi-year financial outlook for fiscal years 2023 through 2025; she reviewed the adjustments made to the budget in response to the Council direction given on May 23, 2023 to reduce the property tax rate for the FY2024, and went over the different steps taken to achieve the *No New Revenue Rate*.

Mr. Alex Cuellar, citizen, commented.

- **Safe and Beautiful Neighborhoods – Mario D'Agostino & Ellen Smyth**
 - Goal 2 – Public Safety (Police, Fire and Municipal Court)

Ms. Ellen Smyth, Chief Transit and Field Operations Officer, kicked off the presentations for Goals, 2, 7, and 8, encompassing 10 departments with the largest budgets. Ms. Smyth provided a breakdown of the different funding sources for all the departments

Chief Mario D'Agostino introduced Fire Chief Jonathan Killings and Interim Assistant Police Chief Julia Inciriaga, who presented the priorities and planned accomplishments for Goal 2.

Chief Killings spoke about priorities for the Fire Department such as community outreach to promote initiatives such as mental health, stop the bleed, hands-on CPR education, community infections control response, and immunization in collaboration with the Health Department. He also mentioned a focus on staffing and talked about the new east-side fire stations set to open next year.

Interim Assistant Police Chief Inciriaga provided Council members with an overview of initiatives to assist with officer recruitment and retention such as marketing rebranding and social media with the new motto "*Make a Change, be the Difference*", along with in-person

visits to high-schools and universities, and printed media to include banners and billboards.

Chief Inciriaga highlighted the reduction of trial and hearings backlog in the Municipal Court, and the implementation of a Text Reminder Program with hearing dates, payment plans, and warrants.

The following City staff members were available to answered questions posed by Council members:

- Ms. Lilia Worrell, Municipal Court Director
- Interim Police Chief Peter Pacillas
- Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Mario D’Agostino, Deputy Manager
- Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager
- Ms. Nicole Cote, Office of Management and Budget Managing Director
- Mr. Steve Alvarado, Code Enforcement Director
- Ms. Dionne Mack, Deputy City Manager, Quality of Life

- **Goal 7 – Infrastructure (Capital Improvement, Sun Metro, Streets & Maintenance)**

Ms. Yvette Hernandez, City Engineer, began the presentation for Goal 7 and spoke about maintaining fiscal responsibility to support economic recovery and supply chain delays with by applying for Federal and State Grants, and highlighted the completion of design and construction projects. As far as the Mass Transit Department, some of the priorities included the Electrification of Lift operations, vehicle replacement, improvements to bus shelters, free rides for veterans and their families, and optimization of the streetcar operations.

Mr. Richard Bristol, Streets and Maintenance Director, provided an update on the residential street resurfacing program approved by City Council on January 30, 2023, to be funded with Community Progress Bonds and pay-go monies. He mentioned a need to adjust project schedules due to delays in contract awards. Finally, Mr. Bristol went over the Top 50 Arterials Project and the Collector Street Resurfacing Active Paving List, which is almost complete with the exception of Montwood Street.

The following City staff members were available to answer questions posed by Council members:

- Mr. Joel McKnight, Streets and Maintenance Assistant Director
- Mr. Sam Rodriguez, Chief Operations Officer
- Mr. Nicholas Ybarra, Environmental Services Director
- Ms. Nicole Ferrini, Climate and Sustainability Officer

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Anello, Hernandez, Molinar, Rivera, and Canales commented

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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ADJOURN

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Molinar and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Anello, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representative Fierro

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk