

A special meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday August 4,, 2009 was held in Town Council Chambers was called to order at 8:30 AM, Council Vice President Collins presiding.

After pledging allegiance to the flag of our country, Town Clerk Long called the roll:

Councilman Farrar-present

Councilman Hanna-present

Councilwoman Frederickson-present

Councilman D'Agostino - present

Councilman Winfield – arrived at 8:37 AM

Council Vice-President Collins – present

Council Vice-President Collins asked if there is anyone in the audience that would like to speak at this time on any agenda item or anything else. No one chose to speak at this time.

Vice-President Collins explained that the reason for this meeting was to discuss/and/or approve the bids for the renovations to Tasca Field. At this time, Vice-President Collins turned the meeting over to Town Engineer Provonsil to explain the bids.

Mr. Provonsil said that there were 22 bids packages taken with 13 returned. He said that there was a large difference between the high and low bidder. He said that the lowest bidder was over \$200,000 lower than the highest bidder. He said that he wanted to thank the Council for holding this special meeting to approve the bids, because this will allow the work to start 10 days earlier, which will insure that the fields will be able to be seeded sometime in September. He said that he is going to have Director of Public Works discuss the particulars of the bids.

Dale Langlais, Director of Public Works, explained that Rambone Brothers was significantly lower than the others. He said that both he and Mr. Provonsil spoke with John Rambone, Jr. to ensure that he can to the job correctly and on time with that bid. Mr. Langlais said that Mr. Rambone assured him that he can have the field ready to be seeded in September. He said that since Mr. Rambone told them that he was able to do the job, then both he and Mr. Provonsil are recommending him for the job.

Councilman Hanna asked if Mr. Rambone has done a job like this in the past, and where were his bids in comparison to others.

Dale Langlais said that he knows that he did the Gorham Field project, but is not sure where his bid was in comparison to others because he was not the Public Works Director at that time. He said that he knows he did a good job on the project.

David Provonsil said that the Gorham Field project was bid out in bits and pieces and not as a whole as this project was. He said that he has no record of bids to make a comparison. He said that he feels one reason the bid is so much lower is that Mr. Rambone already has all of the crushed gravel that is needed at his business. He said that the bid said $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, but Mr. Rambone

has 1 ½ inch gravel. He said that he and Mr. Langlais both approved the use of this alternate material. He said that this gravel will be better for drainage.

Council Vice-President Collins asked what if once they start the job they realize that they can't finish it for the bid price? He also asked if there will be a performance bond required.

David Provonsil said that he and Mr. Langlais both have no reservations about Mr. Rambone being able to finish the job on schedule and within the bid price. He did say that there will be a performance bond required as always.

Councilman Winfield arrived at this time.

Councilman Farrar said that since Mr. Rambone is here, we can ask him if he has ever done a job like this before.

Mr. Rambone said that he did work on the Gorham field project and is currently working on a field on Peck Hill Road in Johnston. He said that he can and will do the job for the stated bid price.

Councilman Farrar said that this company has always followed through with their promises and suggests that we accept the bid. He stated that by saving this money, it allow us to do other things for this project, since there are grants and matching funds available.

David Provonsil said that two things that were not included in this bid were the concession stand and the landscaping. He feels that with this significant savings we will probably be able to do these added projects. He also said that the plan of the Soccer Association is to have the concession stand built by volunteers with the Town supplying the building materials. He said that the next thing to be done is a landscape plan that incorporates aspects from the original concept.

Mr. Provonsil said that the Soccer Association has been great and very helpful with the money they have raised. He said that this project will have an irrigation system and that the well has already been completed. He said that the Soccer Association is paying for both of these projects.

Councilman Hanna asked since the gravel size has changed will the 1 1/2 inch gravel be a approved equivalent.

Mr. Provonsil said that it was stated in the bid package it was suppose to be ¾ inch and that the Town will inspect all materials before the work is to be done. He said that he inspected the 1 ½ inch gravel and approves of it. He said that the Town has the right to except alternative materials if they feel it is an approved equal. He said that he and Mr. Langlais both agree that this is an approved alternative.

Motion made by Councilman D'Agostino, seconded by Councilwoman Frederickson to accept the low bidder, Rambone Brothers for a price of \$171,500. Discussion followed.

Councilman Winfield asked for the motion to be changed to add that the landscaping goes out to bid and not just a change order. He said that this will ensure that the Town will be getting the best price.

Motion made by Councilman D'Agostino, seconded by Councilwoman Frederickson and voted by a roll call vote to approve the bid of Rambone Brothers for a price of \$171,500 and to have the remainder of the work go out to bid.

Councilman Farrar-aye

Councilman D'Agostino –aye

Council Vice-President Collins –aye

Councilman Hanna-aye

Councilwoman Frederickson-aye

Councilman Winfield-aye

Motion carries.

Terry Clarke from Tourbillon Land and Cattle asked if he could ask some questions. He said that by accepting this bid the Town is saving a significant amount of money, but he feels changing the type of gravel after the bids were submitted was not fair to the other bidders.

Mr. Provonsil said that he can make decisions that are in the best interest of the Town. He said that even if the bid was on ¾ inch gravel, none of the bidders would have even come close to Rambones price.

Councilman Winfield asked what the difference in the stone size make.

Mr. Langlais said that it will be less dusty and will hold up much better, and he feels that it is a better product.

Barbara Vennerbeck, 25 Rockland Road said that the Secretary of State web site had the wrong time listed for this meeting. She said that since she was late she would like to know what the meeting is all about.

Mr. Provonsil explained that the reason for this meeting is award the bid for the Tasca Field renovations.

General discussion followed.

Motion made by Councilman D'Agostino, seconded by Councilman Hanna and voted to adjourn at 8:57 AM and to keep the minutes of the meetings previously closed to the public; closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 and to allow the Town Clerk 14 days to prepare the minutes of the meeting.

Councilman Farrar-aye

Councilman D'Agostino-aye

Council Vice-President Collins –aye

Councilman Hanna-aye

Councilwoman Frederickson-aye

Councilman Winfield-aye

Motion carries.

Attest:

Margaret M. Long

Town Clerk