

Tuesday, March 29, 2011
CIAB Meeting Minutes

Present at this meeting: Gregg Cademartori, Joel Favazza, Donald Fryklund, Roland Hadley, Kersten Lanes, Janet Rice, Jeff Towne, Mike Hale.

Mr. Hadley: Call to order at 6:01 p.m.

The CIAB: Postpones approving the minutes from the March 24, 2011, meeting until the next meeting.

Mike Hale, the DPW director, was present to discuss the various requests made by his department. He began by giving a brief synopsis of the schools and that while he knows that there is much work to be done, it will not be until fall, 2011, that he will be able to assemble an actual list of requests as he needs the schools to be vacated before they can be inspected thoroughly.

Mr. Fryklund: How do you feel about fixing up Fuller and making it an annex to city hall?

Mr. Hale: I think the city pays too much to stay at CATA. I also think if all public safety buildings were located at Fuller, it would benefit the city.

Mr. Favazza: Could the DPW go to Fuller as well?

Mr. Hale: The business offices could—but the vehicles and equipment might not fit.

Mr. Fryklund: What schools need the roofs replaced?

Mr. Hale: All except West Parish and GHS.

Mr. Fryklund: What is the life expectancy on the roofs to be installed?

Mr. Hale: I don't know.

Mr. Fryklund then educated the CIAB on the deficiencies inherent in rubber roofs.

Mr. Hale: One major problem with all of the work and maintenance to be done is that my staff is not highly skilled—it's not like I have licensed carpenters, roofers, etc.; I have a guy with a hammer and a guy with a ladder.

Mr. Towne explains that while most of the vehicles the DPW is requesting are not capital items typically reviewed by the CIAB, because they will all be borrowed for together they were brought to the CIAB.

Mr. Hale: Most of the vehicles in my fleet were purchased in the mid-90s and are beyond their life expectancy.

Ms. Lanes: Would you consider leasing?

Mr. Hale: The mileage and wear we put on our vehicles makes leasing difficult.

Mr. Fryklund: Why are you requesting such a small truck [a Ford F-450] for the rubbish packer?

Mr. Hale: That's the size of our current machine and it works quite well traversing the likes of Stage Fort Park, etc.

Ms. Lanes: What's the life expectancy on a rubbish packer?

Mr. Hale: 10 years if used 6-7 hours per day, 5 days per week, from March through November each year.

Ms. Rice: Why doesn't Hiltz take care of this?

Mr. Hale: It would be more expensive to pay Hiltz.

Ms. Lanes: What portion of your fleet are you seeking to replace with these requests?

Mr. Hale: These requests represent less than 10% of the fleet. Many departments are short on vehicles.

Mr. Favazza and Ms. Lanes inquired why city workers who do not specifically need a specialty vehicle to perform their duties are even given a vehicle to use when they could be reimbursed for mileage on their own vehicle.

Mr. Hale: Switching to a protocol of employees using their own vehicle may be a possibility—some city workers are already using their own due to the shortages.

Mr. Fryklund: What is the purpose of the flatbed you are requesting?

Mr. Hale: Can be used to mount jack hammer compressors, boxes, valve-turning machine, etc.

Mr. Cademartori: How would you prioritize your requests?

Mr. Hale: The vehicles are arranged in the packet in the proper priority.

Mr. Cademartori: What about the non-vehicle requests like roof replacement for the DPW building?

Mr. Hale: Those are also very important—the DPW building is poorly designed, poorly maintained, and in need of a lot of work.

Mr. Favazza: If the building is such a junker and you're looking to move the business department to a facility at Fuller if possible, is it really worth putting any money into it?

Mr. Hale: Yes, because it houses a lot of equipment that can get ruined otherwise.

Mr. Fryklund: Please elaborate on the trucks you've requested.

Mr. Hale: We buy Ford trucks and Ford dump trucks at the state bid list rate.

Mr. Fryklund: Ford F-350s aren't very big trucks.

Mr. Hale: We don't overload and we don't haul—so F-350s are fine.

Mr. Fryklund: What about the loader/backhoe?

Mr. Hale: There are some John Deere machines on the state bid list the DPW would be interested in.

Mr. Fryklund: Why use International for the 6-wheelers but Ford for the smaller trucks?

Mr. Hale: International provides better package offers.

Ms. Rice: Can the city sell off the equipment you have but don't use/want?

Mr. Hale: We typically try to trade in; whatever we can't trade in becomes surplus and gets auctioned.

Mr. Cademartori: Did you purchase your previous vehicles within the operating budget?

Mr. Hale: Yes and no [no further explanation given].

Mr. Towne: What about the Boulevard railing request?

Mr. Favazza: Have you looked into using Highway Department funds as Mr. Hadley suggested to you at a previous date?

Mr. Hale: I have not. In any event, I'm just looking to do some patchwork—any major rebuild will come out of the seaport budget.

Mr. Hadley: Do you think secondary treatment will be forced upon the city by the EPA?

Mr. Hale: Yes.

The CIAB agreed to hold its next meeting on Monday, April 11, 2011, at 5:30.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.