

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
October 21, 2019
East Conference Room

Present: Chairman O'Malley and Councilmembers George and Bullock

Also Present: Assistant Finance Director Schuster and Deputy Clerk Lascu taking minutes.

Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

AGENDA

Approval of the minutes of the October 7th meeting of the Finance Committee.

Chairman O'Malley moved to approve the minutes from the committee's previous meeting on October 7th, which was seconded by Councilwoman George. Both members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 50-18B - AN ORDINANCE to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least two thirds of the members of Council, or otherwise to take effect and be in force at the earliest period allowed by law, amending Ordinance 50-18A adopted May 20, 2019, authorizing the Mayor (Director of Public Safety), the Director of Public Works, the Director of Law, the Director of Finance, and/or the Purchasing Manager to enter into contracts for professional services, and to advertise for bids and enter into contracts for the purchase of repair maintenance and operating supplies, services and equipment as authorized by the 2019 Appropriation Ordinance and the Administrative Code of the City of Lakewood with the lowest and best bidder or bidders or as otherwise provided by law. (1st reading 10/7/19)

Chairman O'Malley summarized the issue of concern as amending the contracting authority for organic waste disposal. Assistant Director Schuster indicated that the original contracting authority called for \$30,000 for the service and the Public Works Department is asking for an increase to \$100,000. It should be noted that the \$100,000 figure was appropriated as a part of this year's budget, however in years past, the city never used to spend more than \$30,000 on collection of leaf and yard waste materials. Mr. Schuster stated that there is a regional glut of these waste materials and that contractors largely do not want to take them. In the event they do agree to take them, they are charging entities significantly larger prices or tipping fees. The city has no choice but to pay to get rid of the materials this year and will look at options to bring down the cost next year. Chris Perry in the Urban Forestry Department brought the issue to the attention of the Finance Department.

Chairman O'Malley inquired as to how often the city is procuring waste and whether the city is contracting on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis. Mr. Schuster indicated that he was unaware of the Public Works Department's process and that the city has contracted for a yearly period. It was unclear if the city has bid out the extra waste removal services at this point. Members of the committee reviewed their understanding of tipping fees for organic waste collection being up and

the series of events explained by Mr. Schuster. It was noted that the \$100,000 figure is still within the amount appropriated in the budget and that the administration was merely asking to increase the contracting authority for the item. Members of the committee asked that Finance and Public Works look into whether the contracts for the work were shopped around due to the tripling of costs. Mr. Schuster added that he will do some research into the matter and email committee members what he finds.

Chairman O'Malley moved to recommend adoption of Ordinance 50-18B, which was seconded by Councilman Bullock. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman O'Malley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Councilman Bullock. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned: 7:09 p.m.