

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS, ENROLLMENT AND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

July 2, 2024 at 4:45 PM

Chairman Terrio called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Terrio, E. Sapienza, Vincent, O'Neil, T. Sapienza

Messrs.: K. LeBlanc, M. Gomez, L. Boisvert, J. Bonilla

1. Discussion regarding CGL insurance with Kevin O'Neil, Risk Manager.

Mike Intranuovo, Clerk, stated Mr. O'Neil did send correspondence to the committee members regarding CGL insurance for informational purposes.

Alderman O'Neil moved to receive and file.

Chairman Terrio stated for the record, we were concerned the last time about the cost of insurance and what was driving that. What we found was that uninsured drivers in Manchester are damaging city property and that is a large portion of the cost to the city; people without insurance.

Alderman Vincent duly seconded the motion. Chairman Terrio called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

2. Update on the City's Revolving Loan Fund.

Kim LeBlanc, Financial Analyst II, stated the only comment I wanted to make is on page 3. Loan #11 has been in with a payment and another one will be coming this week.

On motion of Alderman T. Sapienza, duly seconded by Alderman Vincent, it was voted to accept the report.

3. Communication from Kim LeBlanc, Financial Analyst II, submitting Finance Department reports as follows:
 - Accounts Receivable over 90 days
 - Aging Report
 - Outstanding Receivables

On motion of Alderman T. Sapienza, duly seconded by Alderman Vincent, it was voted to approve.

4. Communication from Lauren Boisvert, Chair of the Manchester Arts Commission, requesting the release of funds in the amount of \$15,000 for mural artwork to be done at 160 Lake Avenue.

Chairman Terrio called Ms. Boisvert forward. I just want to clarify that it is my understanding that although the request is for \$13,500, you actually wanted \$15,000 because there was work needed on the façade before you started.

Lauren Boisvert answered that is correct. You have two invoices. One is for \$1,500 to prep the wall so it can be painted on and the remainder of \$13,500 would be for the paint, supplies, artist, etc.

Alderman Vincent stated thank you for coming. If I may, how was this location chosen? What was the process for the location of this project?

Ms. Boisvert answered we were approached by Jason Bonilla who is also here. The purpose of this location was that it is an initiative of the Mayor to beautify the center city. They looked at multiple locations in the center city and this was the best for visibility and a really prime location. Of course, the owner is willing to give us the wall to paint on. All of the stars aligned for this location.

Alderman Vincent stated I guess what I am asking is did they ask or did we approach them.

Ms. Boisvert responded we approached them.

Alderman Vincent stated I am just asking what we are trying to get out of that location. Is it something where we are trying to attract people that come to the city to see it or are we more focusing on our own people within the city? Do you see where I am trying to go with this? I don't think a lot of people coming to Elm Street in Manchester are going to walk down Lake Avenue to see art and we want to maximize the number of people who see it.

Ms. Boisvert replied I think the purpose of the location is...I hear what you are saying that it is not in our most touristy area but I think we want to expand what that touristy area is and to create more points for tourists or people who may be coming to the city to experience. There are a lot of local businesses and restaurants around that area that would benefit from having a little more traffic.

Alderman Vincent stated that is what I was getting at. So the local community is the prime target for that.

Ms. Boisvert answered absolutely and to beautify the center city.

Alderman T. Sapienza stated I think it is a great location and I think this is the perfect type of project for that location. It is going to have a big impact and that location can use the help. That is a great location; thank you.

Ms. Boisvert responded I agree. A lot of people drive by that location every single day and there are going to be a lot of eyes on it.

Alderman T. Sapienza stated a lot of people live there too.

Chairman Terrio stated I don't know anything about murals. I have seen them but is this a standard cost, the \$13,500? Is that normal for a mural?

Ms. Boisvert replied yes that is normal and I would say that the wall prep in my opinion is lower than what I have seen.

Chairman Terrio stated just to clarify because Mark Gomez from Parks & Recreation is here, he had some concerns. Is this private property or city property?

Ms. Boisvert responded this is private property. We were requesting funds for two different projects. I ask that you table our other request due to Mr. Gomez's concerns. This project is on private property.

Chairman Terrio called Mr. Gomez forward. We had discussed earlier that you had some concerns because it hadn't gone through Parks. The fact that it is on private property, do you still have those concerns? Does it still need to go through you?

Mark Gomez, Parks, Chief of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery answered there are two different locations. Ms. Boisvert and I spoke this morning. One is on Lake Avenue and I believe that is on private property. The other location that they were proposing to put a mural in is at Sheehan Basquil Park, which is public property.

Chairman Terrio asked so just to clarify, this is for one mural right.

Ms. Boisvert replied the \$15,000 that we are discussing is for the Lake Avenue location on a private business.

Chairman Terrio asked so Mr. Gomez do you still have concerns with this. Does this have to go through your department?

Mr. Gomez responded I don't have any concerns with the Lake Avenue property.

Chairman Terrio stated I just want to ask Mr. Chiesa if there are any problems with doing a city mural on private property.

Peter Chiesa, Deputy Solicitor, stated perhaps we should get a release or an agreement that the owner will preserve the mural for a certain period of time.

Chairman Terrio asked does the owner of the property have an agreement with you.

Ms. Boisvert stated MAC is funding this project but we are not fully funding this project. There is another cost that is being fund raised to complete the project. We are not the project managers and we are not facilitating the relationship. This is kind of a project that is being led by Jason Bonilla to work with this business owner to complete the project.

Chairman Terrio asked Mr. Bonilla to come forward. I just want to make sure that all of our ducks are in a row. What is your understanding with the owner of the property?

Jason Bonilla replied I heard you talk about an agreement and if there has been one with the owner. Lassandro is one of the owners. It is a duo. They were down to allow us to paint. They are down to put it on the wall that is facing Lake Avenue. The Manchester Arts Commission is giving us \$15,000 and there is a remainder of \$5,400 though that we have to raise on our own. That is what we had our campaign about this past week where we raised about \$3,400. We still have around \$2,000 left. A good chunk is being given to us and has been committed to us by the Arts Commission. We can come up with some sort of...I do hear you about the importance of having some sort of agreement with the owners because we do want them to preserve the wall and we had talked about that as well but having something in writing would be great so we are all on the same page and we feel secure with our investment as well. Again, to reiterate certain concerns, the purpose of this mural is also to put a huge emphasis on the center city. We really want to create more positivity around there and clean it up and encourage others to do the same so this is a trickle effect and more artists across the country can come or even across NH to the center city to beautify areas on their own. This is one of many initiatives to come.

Chairman Terrio asked what is the subject matter of the mural.

Ms. Boisvert answered that is being developed by the artist from Positive Street Art. It will focus on the community that is there and will represent the diverse population that lives within that community. It will be focused on celebrating that diversity.

Alderman O'Neil moved to approve.

Alderman O'Neil asked Lauren you talked about it reflecting the community. Could that be past and present? It has evolved over the years.

Mr. Bonilla stated it is to acknowledge current and past immigrants. I know that in the center city we have had a big Greek community so we are cognizant of that and insuring that we represent the resiliency of all constituents in the center city – the families, our students and the importance that our public schools play in that part of the city too.

Alderman O'Neil stated and the days of the Greek and Irish.

Mr. Bonilla responded I got you and we will make those recommendations to the artist but we want to be cognizant of all.

Chairman Terrio stated just to clarify, we are approving \$15,000.

Alderman Vincent asked are there two items here or just one.

Chairman Terrio answered just one.

Alderman Vincent asked do we want to move forward with this before there is an agreement.

Alderman O'Neil stated this is going to be a simple agreement to be worked out. If you want to tie this up for three or four months...let's give them a chance. They know they need an agreement and they can get it done with the Solicitor's Office.

Alderman Vincent stated I just want to protect you down the road.

Mr. Bonilla stated we will do that.

Alderman Vincent stated it is just to make sure that the project does work and long-term down the road they don't sell the business and your mural is covered up.

Ms. Boisvert stated just to add a note, the artist who is doing this is part of Positive Street Art, which is an organization that does professional murals and has done many within Manchester and Nashua. They have experience with this.

Alderman T. Sapienza duly seconded the motion. *Chairman Terrio called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.*

5. Communication from the Chair of the Manchester Arts Commission requesting the release of funds in the amount of \$6,000 for a summer internship program to allow student artists the opportunity to create a mural at Ray Cross Field.

Chairman Terrio asked is this your request also Lauren.

Ms. Boisvert answered yes.

Alderman Vincent stated my understanding is we are looking to table this.

Ms. Boisvert replied yes. This is another project that the MAC agreed to fund but are not managing. There was a miscommunication so to be respectful of all parties involved, I want some communication to continue to happen.

Alderman Vincent moved to table.

Chairman Terrio asked just to clarify, what is the problem

Ms. Boisvert responded my understanding is that the proper procedure wasn't followed from the project manager to make sure that Mr. Gomez was involved. There were conversations with other individuals that didn't follow the proper procedure all the way through to get everybody on board. We want everybody to be on board before we press the gas and have this move forward.

Chairman Terrio stated we are not going to have another meeting for a month and this is a summer program. Mr. Gomez, would you be okay with us approving it contingent upon your approval because it sounds like this has to go through Parks.

Mr. Gomez replied yes. What I would like to see is a fully flushed out design proposal. We would like to know specifically what the mural would include and we would like to understand specifically the location of the mural or murals. I understand they are

probably going to be on buildings within the park that are utilized by youth athletic leagues. We want to have a conversation as well with the presidents of those leagues to make sure that they are in support of the concept. We want to work through the normal commenting process that we would have for any installation of art in a public space. Conditional on all of that, if you wanted to move forward today that would be fine. As I expressed when I spoke to her earlier, there is no guarantee that at the conclusion of that process that the proposal would be approved.

Chairman Terrio responded so you might not approve it.

Mr. Gomez stated conceivably. We are not opposed in any way to the concept that has been put forth. We are just missing a lot of the details that we need at this time.

Chairman Terrio asked would the committee members be okay with approving this contingent upon Parks & Recreation approval. I have full faith in Mr. Gomez to make sure it is vetted and all of the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed.

Alderman Vincent stated I don't think we are questioning Mr. Gomez. I think both parties are in agreement that this needs to be tabled for further discussion between them. Neither one is saying they want it to pass at this moment. They both understand that they need more communication and I think tabling it is the appropriate approach.

Chairman Terrio replied just to clarify, if we table this it won't happen until probably Labor Day.

Alderman Vincent stated I believe they are already aware of that.

Alderman O'Neil asked Lauren are you hoping to get this done in July or August.

Ms. Boisvert stated again this is something we are funding but not a project that I am managing. The hope would be that this project would be something that happens in the summertime but I want to be respectful of all parties involved.

Alderman O'Neil stated well the clock is ticking and I agree Chairman that we won't get this back until August and by the time it gets approved it will be after Labor Day. I would like to see us approve this subject to the approval of Parks & Recreation. Certainly they have to come up with the content and we don't want it to be offensive or anything.

Chairman Terrio asked what type of things do you need to see done, Mr. Gomez, before you can approve this.

Mr. Gomez answered we would like to see a formal submittal that includes the design of the mural and what is going to be included in the mural. We would like to see the exact location where the mural or murals would be painted. We want to see support from the youth athletic leagues that use those buildings or facilities to make sure they don't have any objections to what is being painted. Then we would want to understand a little bit better and put into an MOU what the long-term maintenance of the mural would be to make sure there is standard indemnification language and that sort of thing.

Chairman Terrio stated personally, I feel comfortable making the approval contingent upon Mr. Gomez's approval. Like you just said, you may not give your approval if you are not comfortable or happy with what is proposed. Given all of that, I would like to have a motion to approve this.

Alderman Vincent asked if we vote yes, we are releasing the funds correct.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, responded correct.

Chairman Terrio stated contingent upon Mr. Gomez's approval.

Alderman Vincent stated so that contingency has to be stated in the motion.

City Clerk Normand stated the motion would be to approve subject to the final approval of Parks & Recreation.

Alderman Vincent asked Mr. Gomez will you communicate back to us once that happens.

Mr. Gomez replied yes.

Alderman Vincent asked are you good with that Lauren.

Ms. Boisvert responded yes. Just a note about our funding. This is an internship where high school students in Manchester in My Turn would be completing the mural. We are funding the staff supervising the interns but we are not funding the mural itself. Even if you approve the funding and there is not a mural that comes from it and it is just a mentorship, that would still be a beneficial experience for youth in Manchester.

*On motion of **Alderman T. Sapienza**, duly seconded by **Alderman O'Neil**, it was voted to approve the request contingent upon approval from Parks & Recreation.*

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Vincent**, duly seconded by **Alderman T. Sapienza**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Normand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clerk of Committee