

City Council Special Meeting
October 9, 2023
6:30PM City Hall

Attendance: Mayor John Frieboes, City Councilors Vicki Townsend, Jeff Nielsen, Lindsey Thompson. Beth Wendt City Recorder. Councilor Justin Wright and Logan McCrae were absent.

Mayor John Frieboes called the meeting to order to consider bidding on a truck to use for plowing city streets. Jeff said the auction company was a reputable outfit. He felt the truck was the perfect size for North Powder and should be low maintenance. It has a gas engine, is 4 speed, and has low miles. Vicki was concerned about the budget. She didn't want to get something that we will have to put a lot of extra money into, like we did for the VAC truck. John commented that it is a 1 ton pickup truck with a dump bed. He reiterated that being a gas engine it should be low maintenance and it wouldn't require a CDL to drive. Vicki wondered how much it would cost to purchase a plow and have it mounted. Jeff thought we could get a light plow with all the hardware for about \$2500 or less. Lindsey remarked that the VAC truck is a specialty piece of equipment. Beth noted that in 2023-2024 we budgeted \$20,000 for equipment in the Street Fund and \$30,000 in Water and Sewer. She suggested that the bulk of the cost be applied to the Street Fund, as that will be where it is used most, and save the water/sewer fund for something more directly related to water and sewer. In addition to the cost of the truck itself, we need to consider the cost of getting the truck to North Powder as well as the plow. Vicki was concerned that we would go over budget because of the VAC truck. Beth reminded that was 2 years ago. The Council voted at that time to spend up to \$30,000 for a VAC truck and/or a dump truck but that doesn't affect this year's budget. John added that it has a small dump bed so we can haul some gravel. Using it to plow streets would be a lot safer than using the big dump truck that we already have. The big truck is really too big for North Powder. In comparison, Woodpecker Trucking in Pendleton has a 6 yard diesel truck for \$40,000. Jeff thought \$12,000 to \$15,000 would be a reasonable price. It will be difficult to find something with as low mileage. John agreed. Jeff made a motion to allow Rick to bid on the truck with a cap of \$15,000. Vicki wanted to add a cap of \$5000 for repairs and adding a plow. Beth noted that would spend the whole year's budget in the street fund. John commented that worst case scenario is that we would have to wait until next year to buy a plow. Beth reiterated that Jeff made a motion to cap the bid at \$15,000 for the truck. Vicki seconded. All were in favor. Beth reiterated that it could all come out of the Street fund, but it could be split with water and sewer. She suggested the biggest part come out of the Street fund. Vicki made a motion to add a cap of \$5000 for a plow, repairs, tires, etc. Jeff seconded. All were in favor. Jeff will work with Rick to figure out payment and when it could be picked up.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Beth Wendt
City Recorder