

SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES
College Park City Council
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
9:43 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this was a Virtual Meeting.

PRESENT: Mayor Wojahn; Councilmembers Kabir, Kennedy, Dennis, Esters, Day, Rigg, Mitchell, and Mackie.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Gardiner, Interim City Manager; Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Terry Schum, Director of Planning; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Adam Rosenbaum, Student Liaison; Julia Nihkinson, Deputy Student Liaison.

During the regularly scheduled Worksession of the College Park City Council, a motion was made by Councilmember Rigg and seconded by Councilmember Dennis to enter into a Special Session to vote on a time sensitive matter. The possibility of the Special Session was listed on the Worksession agenda. The motion passed 8-0 and Council entered Special Session at 9:43 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

21-G-40 Award of contract to Price Modern for City Hall furniture in an amount not to exceed \$2,406,650; the City's portion will not exceed \$875,672.

Ms. Ferguson said this is a contract for the office furniture in both the UMD and City portions of the new City Hall building and does not include ancillary furniture such as Council Chambers, conference rooms, and lobby. It went out to bid in an unusual way because the two parties are requiring different types of furniture, so the prices were compared for the workstations which are common to both parties. The recommendation is based on a combination of the price, the quality of the furniture, and the warranty; it is not the lowest bid that was received. The contract amount is within the amount of the budget that has already been approved for this part of the project.

Councilmember Kabir asked where the funding will come from. Ms. Ferguson said it is from the amount that was bonded for the project. He asked how the cost share with the University was calculated. Ms. Ferguson said the architect costed it out based on the specific needs of each of the parties; it is not based on the square footage ratio. He asked for an estimate of the cost of the ancillary furniture. Ms. Ferguson said we don't know that pricing yet, but it will not exceed the amount that has been approved for the furniture. He asked about waiting to approve this next week so residents can weigh in. Ms. Ferguson said we are requesting a Special Session to approve this tonight because there is a long lead time for the furniture.

Councilmember Mackie clarified that this is just for furniture, not curtains or paintings.

Councilmember Day said we have already approved the budget for the City Hall project and it was stated that the cost is within the budgeted amount for this portion of the project. We are not asking for more money, we are only selecting the contractor, so he doesn't understand why we shouldn't move forward.

A motion was made by Councilmember Rigg and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to approve a contract for City Hall and University Office furniture in the amount of up to \$2,406,650, allocated \$875,672 to the City and \$1,530,978 to the University, to Price Modern in substantially the form attached.

There were no comments from the audience.

Councilmember Kabir will support but wishes the vote could have been taken at the Regular Meeting.

The motion passed 8-0.

21-G-46 SB 89 – Municipalities – Vacancies in Elected Offices

Councilmember Mitchell asked staff to look at SB 89 re Special Elections in municipalities. She thinks we should be given the right to maintain our own procedures about Special Elections without state intervention. If the staff agrees, we may want to oppose the bill. Councilmember Dennis asked about the timing of this bill. The bill is currently in Committee and the hearing is Thursday.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell and seconded by Councilmember Kennedy to allow City staff to vet SB 89 and to take a position in opposition if it would negatively impact the City.

There were no comments from the audience or Council.

The motion passed 8-0.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Councilmember Day and seconded by Councilmember Dennis to adjourn from Special Session, and with a vote of 8-0, the Special Session was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller
City Clerk

Date
Approved