

**MINORITY, WOMEN, DISADVANTAGED & EVANSTON BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
(M/W/D/EBE)
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

6:00 P.M.

Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilmember Bobby Burns, Councilmember Kristian Harris, Angela Pennisi, Ernest Noy, Rachel Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jared Davis, Bonaventure Fandohan, Kemone Hendricks, Councilmember Devon Reid, Michael McLean

STAFF PRESENT: Tammi Nunez, Purchasing Manager; John Gonzalez, Purchasing Specialist; Nathan Norman, Workforce Development Manager; Genaro Hernandez, Career Development Coordinator; Jessica Cooper, Workforce Development Coordinator

GUEST: Brandon Gumm, Qwally, Inc., Julianna Zitron, Evanston RoundTable

PRESIDING MEMBER: Councilmember Bobby Burns

1. Declaration of a Quorum

No quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

No approval due to no quorum present.

3. Guest Introduction

A. Brandon Gumm (Qwally)

Third party developer of business engagement software for local governments and support organizations.

4. Staff Reports

A. M/W/EBE and LEP Tracking Report

LEP Projects:

BID 23-26 2023 Water Main Improvements and Street Resurfacing Project – LEP compliant with one Evanston resident employee with Bolder Contractors, Inc.

BID 22-70 Evanston Animal Shelter – LEP Eligible. An Evanston resident reported to be involved on the project and vendor will be in compliance at start of construction.

Evanston Municipal Storage Facility Phase 1 – LEP Eligible – Not in compliance. Workforce Development Manager has reached out to provide resources.

MWDEBE Projects Awarded 5/8/2023:

Bid 23-26 2023 Water Main Improvements and Street Resurfacing Project, \$6,551,795.40. Awarded to Bolder Contractors, Inc. MWDEBE Subcontractors: Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting (WBE), 0.20% towards goal; Flader Plumbing (EBE) 1.70% towards goal; JG Demo (DBE) 10.20% towards goal; Precision Pavement (MBE) 1.10% towards goal; Smith Maintenance (MBE) 1.00% towards goal; Sonican Trucking (MBE) 3.10% towards goal.

Bid 23-16 2023 MFT Street Resurfacing Project \$1,214,412.00. Awarded to J.A. Johnson Paving Co. MWDEBE Subcontractor: Galaxy Underground, Inc. (WBE) 11.44% towards goal.

RFP 23-19 Independent Ryan Field Rebuild Economic Impact Study Consulting Services, \$78,500.00. Awarded to C.H. Johnson Consulting, Inc. MWDEBE Subcontractor: Desman Inc (MBE) 22% towards goal.

MWDEBE Awarded 6/12/2023:

Engineering Services for the Central Street/Central Park Avenue Traffic Signal Modernization Project, \$88,200.00. Awarded to Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. Vendor is EBE.

2023 Capital Improvements Projects Construction Engineering, \$107,624.00. Awarded to TERRA Engineering, Ltd. Vendor is WBE.

Engineering Services for Leon Place Reconstruction Project (Simpson Street to Ridge Avenue) \$138,364.00. Awarded to Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. Vendor is EBE.

LEP Penalty Fund as of 6/21/2023: \$77,596.75

5. New Business

A. Qwally – Presentation

Qwally works with local governments to build a more inclusive digital landscape through online small business, procurement, and supplier diversity programs. The Qwally platform offers self-serve tools to help small businesses connect with city programs and navigate complex processes. Cities use Qwally to centralize key information for small businesses and coordinate the support for entrepreneurs among the ecosystem partners in their communities. Qwally helps on-board businesses, guide vendors through administrative processes, and connect entrepreneurs with support organizations.

6. Old Business

A. M/W/D/EBE Certification for Local business, Certification Process - No Discussion

B. Anchor Procurement NLC Update

Funding received. Some funds were used for the June 13th, 2023, Minority, Local, Disadvantaged, and Women-Owned Business Contracting Fair with approximately \$4,000 utilized to cover expenses. The remaining balance must be used by August 31,

2023 unless an extension is requested. The remaining funds will be used to cover additional events or a website.

C. MWEBE Committee Work Plan Updates

- Groups will begin to work on their plans during the meeting which may be held offsite.
- The Directory/Self-declaration of uncertified M/W/D/EBE firms will be discussed in a following separate meeting.
- Additional details regarding work plans will be discussed during the next M/W/D/EBE meeting on July 19, 2023.

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment

Councilmember Burns ended the meeting at 7:37 P.M.