THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

City Council Meeting Date: August 25, 2020

Subject: Purchase two new 30-foot Gillig diesel electric hybrid buses.

Staff Resource(s): Ken Putnam, PE, Transportation Department Director
Jessica Morriss, AICP, MPA, Assistant Transportation Department Director
Eunice Lovi, Transit Planning Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase two new Gillig 30-foot diesel electric hybrid buses for the Asheville Rides Transit System totaling $1,441,526 using the existing Rocky Mount, North Carolina Consortium Contract No. CRM 76164 that the City of Asheville is part of.

Background:

- In 2018, the City received $5.7 million in Federal grant funds from the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization for the purpose of purchasing new transit buses.
- The City match for the grant funds is $1.4 million, which provides a total budget of $7.1 million for bus purchases.
- The City has already purchased nine buses using these grant funds.
- Two buses were delivered during December, 2019 and the other seven buses will arrive during Spring 2021.
- The subject action would enable the City to purchase two more buses using the Rocky Mount, North Carolina consortium contract (CRM 76164).
- These two buses are expected to be received within 12-18 months of purchase date.

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Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- N/A

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- This action will enable staff to purchase additional buses needed to meet the schedule for timely replacement of buses in the fleet that have met their useful service life, as well as accommodate future system expansion consistent with the Transit Master Plan.
- This action ensures compliance with the Federal Transit Administration and the City of Asheville's procurement policy.

Con(s): None

Fiscal Impact:

- The purchases will be made using a portion of the $5.7 million in grant funds awarded by the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2018.
- The City will provide the required 20% matching funds of approximately $288,305.

- The grant and the City match are already budgeted in the approved Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and the City's match is included in the cash flow for the CIP/debt model. The funding including the City's match ($288,205) is already budgeted.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase two new Gillig 30-foot diesel electric hybrid buses for the Asheville Rides Transit System totaling $1,441,526 using the existing Rocky Mount, North Carolina Consortium Contract No. CRM 76164 that the City of Asheville is part of.

Attachment(s):

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE TWO GILLIG 30-FOOT DIESEL ELECTRIC HYBRID BUSES

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143 -129 for letting of public contracts; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S §143 -129 (g) permits a municipal governing board to waive the requirement to request formal bids for procurement contracts; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(3) authorizes purchases made through a competitive bidding group purchasing program, which is a formally organized program that offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Department has identified transit needs that include bus purchases for FY 2021; and

WHEREAS, Federal funds would assist in the funding of such needs; and

WHEREAS, the local match is currently budgeted in the Capital Improvement Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to purchase two new Gillig 30-foot diesel electric hybrid buses for the Asheville Rides Transit System totaling $1,441,526 using the existing Rocky Mount, North Carolina Consortium Contract No. CRM 76164 that the City of Asheville is part of.

Read, approved and adopted this the 25th day of August, 2020.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

City Attorney