



**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
**4:30pm, Wednesday, May 5, 2021**  
**1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC**  
**and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to order**

Present: Council members Smith, Streetman, Ward

Staff Present: Asst. Administrator Hanna, Director Pitts, Director Kerr, Asst. Director Asero

**2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – April 12, 2021**

Council Member Streetman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 meeting, and Council Member Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Citizens' Comments -- none**

**4. Department Reports – Director Pitts and Assistant Director Asero**

Director Pitts reported that garbage collection totals are back to normal while yard debris remains elevated. Miscellaneous garbage is still higher than normal.

Asst. Director Asero reported on drainage projects at 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Forest Trail. He said Eadies is completing a comprehensive cleaning of the drainage culverts at Forest Trail.

Facilities maintenance work included the painting of the fencing at Front Beach, repair of a broken irrigation main wires at Front Beach, preventative maintenance service on the generator at City Hall, the replacement of an AC unit at City Hall, roof caulking at Fire Station 2, and annual backflow testing at all City buildings.

ROC has been installed at the Carmen Bunch golf cart path. City-owned street parking signs between 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> avenues along Ocean Boulevard have been installed. Staff completed a landscape design around some palm trees at Front Beach so that landscapers could see it and bid on completing the remainder of the project.

The landscape contractor, Pleasant Places, has begun cutting the area along Palm Boulevard with the new parking bumpers.

SCDOT has been on the island to repair the sinkhole on 41<sup>st</sup>, which reappeared after they left, so they will be back to correct the issue. Asst. Director Asero said he gave SCDOT an inventory of the streets maintained by them that are in need of repair.

5. **Old Business**

A. **Update on Phase III Drainage Project, small internal projects, and Waterway Boulevard path elevation**

Director Kerr said nothing further has been done with regards to the Waterway Boulevard path elevation project. Asst. Administrator Hanna said the lighting of the pathway will be considered as planning for the project moves forward.

Director Kerr said the work at 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue is currently being held up while they wait for AT&T to shift some phone lines. He reported that the work at 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue is still two weeks from starting, which concerns staff as it gets closer to the summer season. They will be asking Gulfstream to consider working at night to get the project done quickly and with minimal interruption to traffic. This could lead to noise and bright lighting during that time period. Neighbors in the area will be notified should that become the work plan.

The stabilization work on Sparrow Lane is nearly complete.

B. **Update on island-wide Drainage Master Plan RFP**

Director Kerr reported that 5-6 firms were at the pre-bid meeting for this RFP. The bids are expected in June and will be reviewed by the Planning Commission before coming to the Public Works Committee for a recommendation to City Council. He said the intent is to select the most qualified company and hope their bid is within the budget.

C. **Discussion of the creation of an Environmental Advisory Committee**

Council Member Smith read the mission of the proposed Environmental Advisory Committee: “to advise Council on matters of environmental impacts, protections, conservation, and sustainability by exploring innovations, best practices, and data around changes. The committee would address matters as requested by City Council.” She envisions the 7-member committee meeting 6 times/year, serving 3-year staggered terms, and being selected by the Personnel Committee.

Council Member Ward suggested adding two academic positions to the committee, one for a high school student and one for a college student. He believes they should have voting privileges and receive academic credit for one-year’s-worth of committee involvement.

**MOTION: Council Member Smith made a motion to recommend to City Council the formation of an Environmental Advisory Committee consisting of 7 adult citizens, 1 college student, 1 high school student, and a City Council liaison. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. **New Business**

A. **Discussion and consideration of RFP proposals for the installation of drainage infrastructure and grading to address the drainage issue at the intersection of 34<sup>th</sup> and Hartnett Boulevard**

Director Kerr said the Public Works Department has been aware of the drainage issues at this intersection for some time and has been working to find a cost-effective solution that would come from the Public Works drainage contingency fund. Six bids were received for the project, ranging in price from \$18,00 to \$60,000. Staff met with the low bidder, Truluck Construction, to discuss the bid and their readiness to proceed. Staff would like to recommend Truluck Construction for the project with the funding coming from the Public Works drainage contingency fund.

**MOTION: Council Member Smith made a motion to recommend Truluck Construction's bid in the amount of \$18,850 with funding coming from the Public Works drainage contingency fund to the Ways & Means Committee for approval. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

B. **Discussion of potential solutions to drainage ditch erosion issues**

Committee members noted the need to address the growing drainage ditch issues around the island. Asst. Administrator Hanna said, "This [drainage ditch issue] is going to be part of what is considered there [in the Drainage Master Plan] and having a broader overall strategy will certainly contribute to reduced erosion." He reported that some partial funding assistance may be available through MS4.

Director Kerr said it is definitely in the City's best interest to have the banks along the ditches maintained. Staff has been discussing the issue with Thomas & Hutton on developing a policy to address ways in which citizens could stabilize the ditches on private property. He believes they could have a policy developed in a matter of weeks. Some of the work being done in the Phase III Drainage Project could help some of the ditch drainage. Council Member Ward asked Director Kerr to explain this issue to the City Council at the May meeting.

Director Pitts suggested that some homeowners could gutter their homes to divert runoff away from the ditches.

C. **Discussion of changes to the backyard service in Wild Dunes**

Director Pitts said there will be less backyard service in the future as the island population continues to increase. The efficiency of the garbage collection suffers due to the labor-intensive nature of the backyard service. He said 95% of backyard service is in Wild Dunes. There will be an increased need to move to commercial dumpsters in that area.

7. **Miscellaneous Business**

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 4:30pm.

8. **Adjournment**

Council Member Streetman made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Smith seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane  
City Clerk