



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
5:00pm, Thursday, June 3, 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, Ward

Absent: Council Member Streetman

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

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – May 5, 2021

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2021 meeting, and Council Member Ward 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 were lower for May, but he anticipates they will rebound in June. Yard debris collection is average and there were 45 tons of miscellaneous garbage collected.

Director Pitts also shared that two large vehicle maintenance issues recently consumed one-third of his vehicle maintenance budget. He did not see this as a trend but noted that the costs of repairs are increasing.

As a reminder, twice weekly garbage and one weekly recycle collections begin next week.

Asst. Director Asero stated that the 25th Avenue drainage repair has been completed by Charleston County. He reported on a recent meeting with Truluck Construction regarding the drainage repair at 34th and Hartnett Boulevard. Eadies has completed a comprehensive cleaning of the Forest Trail basin drainage culverts and cleared vegetation at Lauden Street, 41st and 45th avenues.

SCDOT is scheduled to clean drainage ditches at 25th and Palm & 4th Avenue at the end of June.

Facilities maintenance projects included: repair of broken irrigation main wires and vales at Front Beach, the servicing of the generator at City Hall, painting at City Hall, roof repair at

Station 2, air conditioning replacement at Station 2, painting of wayfinding and city parking signs, and light repair at City Hall.

Work on the front beach included the cleaning up of the parking lot, restroom electrical repair, and the installation of a bike rack and the removal of heavy vegetation at the 14th Avenue beach path.

He also reported on the removal, releveling, and replacement of the Mobi mat at 9th Avenue. SCDOT is also scheduled for the repair of the concrete divider at 41st Avenue and Palm Boulevard.

Committee members and staff discussed the increase in the amount of trash along Palm Boulevard. The addition of trash cans on the land side of Palm Boulevard will increase the need for service by the trash collection company. Asst. Director Asero has assigned a temporary employee to pick up garbage on that side of the road and BSOs have been equipped with trash grabbers so they can pick up trash as they patrol the area.

Administrator Fragoso said that additional trash cans have been added at heavily used beach access paths. Asst. Director Asero said that 20 new barrels were put out for the holiday weekend. Administrator Fragoso will speak to the trash removal contractor for some insight into the issue. She also reported that the messaging campaign with Sullivan's Island the CVB, paused last year due to COVID, will include Folly Beach this year. A kickoff messaging event is in the planning stages. Council Member Smith said suggested the messaging encourage people to take their trash with them.

5. **Old Business**

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

Administrator Fragoso reported that applications for the Waterway Boulevard path elevation and the Forest Trail outfall have been submitted to CTC. She anticipates an answer in a few months.

She shared that Thomas & Hutton has updated the cost estimates for those projects. The Forest Trail outfall originally estimated to cost about \$800,000 is now expected to cost \$1.4M. The Waterway Boulevard project originally estimated to cost just over \$600,000 is now expected to cost \$900,000. Both estimates include a 25% contingency. The \$3.5M borrowed for the outfalls project may not be enough. She said there is the possibility of being able to use funds from the American Rescue Act to pay for the drainage projects. The City anticipates receiving approximately \$2.3M from that stimulus.

Director Kerr reported that 14 permits are needed for the outfall projects. To date, one has been fully approved, 4 have been conditionally approved, and the remaining 7 are in various stages of approval. Easements are still being finalized. Work at 41st Avenue will be completed after Labor Day.

B. Update on island-wide Drainage Master Plan RFP

Director Kerr said the Planning Commission will hold a Special Meeting on June 9 to interview three of the five companies who submitted bid proposals for the Drainage Master Plan. Their recommendation will go to the Ways & Means Committee on June 15.

C. Discussion of potential solutions to drainage ditch erosion issues

Administrator Fragoso reported that staff is developing draft guidelines she expects the Committee to be able to review next month. These guidelines will include an agreement between the City and the homeowner that would delineate the criteria that the homeowner would need to follow with the installation of materials to shore up ditches as well as give perpetual maintenance responsibility to the property owner. The agreement would also allow the City to remove any materials they deemed to be harmful to the overall drainage system.

Director Kerr added they are working with Thomas & Hutton to make the process as easy as possible to follow and execute.

Committee members and staff agreed the use of sandbags in the drainage ditches is a bad idea.

D. Discussion of the creation of an Environmental Advisory Committee

Administrator Fragoso reported that a page has been created to on the City's website inviting interested citizens to apply for membership on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Notification about the application process has also been shared in the local paper and on social media. No applications have been received yet. The deadline is June 30.

Administrator Fragoso expressed concern about the size of the group and recommends that it only be 7 members instead of 9. It will be important to stress meeting attendance to all members.

6. New Business

7. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 4:30pm unless action is needed by the Committee in July.

8. Adjournment

Council Member Smith made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk