

Public Works Committee
4:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 5, 2011

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 5, 2011 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present for the meeting were Councilmembers Duffy and Stone, City Administrator Tucker, Public Works Director Pitts, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. Councilmember Thomas' absence was excused; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Past Chair Duffy called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to retain Chair Duffy and Vice-Chair Thomas; Councilmember Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 3 as submitted; Chair Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **Citizens' Comments – None**

5. **Department Reports for November and December 2010 – Director Pitts**

- A. Maintenance Reports
- B. Trash Collection Reports

For the month of November, Director Pitts reported that the focus for Public Works personnel had been to complete the clean-up of the beach access paths; in December time was spent on general maintenance around the island and in preparation for the holidays. The Director noted that Eadies is nearing completion on the task of cleaning the vegetation from the drainage ditches on the island. Charleston County is working on drainage improvements to Lauden Boulevard; according to the permit, the project is as follows:

“The work as proposed . . . consists of making drainage improvements. Specifically, . . . to install a 24” RCP to fill an open on-site ditch. The Critical Area impact will be the installation of a 41’ x 24” RCP section for the overall drainage project. The impact will be approximately 170 cubic yards of fill. Drainage will then be accomplished by the installation of 5 drop inlets along the entire section of the improved drainage system. The work as described is for drainage improvements.”

A copy of the public notice is attached to the historical record of this meeting.

Director Pitts commented that vehicle maintenance had been up the last two (2) months of 2010, but that the year-to-date budget figure was within target.

In conclusion, the Director reported that garbage collections were as expected.

Chair Duffy stated that, although the charts and graphs were of value, he was of the opinion that the tables alone that Director Pitts provides each month were sufficient; after a brief discussion, Councilmember Stone agreed. Chair Duffy also requested an improvement to the table's formatting.

6. Old Business

Update on Drainage Projects

Assistant Dziuban reported that significant progress has been made on the bid document for the 53rd to 57th Avenue Drainage Project this week as a result of a conference call between the City Administrator, the City Attorney and Dave Stevens of Civil Site Environmental; indications are that the document will be completed soon. The City has not yet received the easements from Lowe Wild Dunes and the Wild Dunes Community Association (WDCA), but all of the permits are in-hand. In addition, Assistant Dziuban noted that the construction document indicates a construction window of ninety (90) calendar-days in an effort to complete the project before the tourist season.

Administrator Tucker added that the City had received the easement from WDCA, but, when the scope of the project changed, the easement changed; that is the document the City needs.

Chair Duffy asked the status of Charleston County's drainage project for Sparrow Drive; Director Pitts indicated that it is in the planning stages.

7. New Business

A. Discussion of Upcoming Changes to Bees Ferry Disposal Site

Administrator Tucker explained that the County is going to propose a change where they will no longer accept plastic bags at the Bees Ferry landfill, and the County is leaving it to the individual local governments to determine how they will deal with the change. In the Administrator's opinion, the City will have a couple of alternatives; they are as follows:

- The City could do nothing and allow residents to continue to put their yard debris in plastic bags that the Public Works personnel would slice open before dumping into the truck which will increase staff hours; or
- The City could pass an ordinance requiring that yard debris be placed in bio-degradable paper bags that are available at retail stores.

Administrator Tucker related her correspondence with her counterpart at Charleston County who informed her that the change for the landfill will be presented to Charleston County Council in January 2011; therefore, the Administrator stated that the City must decide what it will do in response to that action and she was seeking direction from this Committee.

Director Pitts explained that he anticipated an operational change that will move a driver to the second flatbed truck, keeping one (1) flatbed on the road and the CAT operating while the second truck travels to the landfill.

After discussing various possibilities, the Committee directed the Administrator to have the City Attorney begin to develop an ordinance banning plastic bags and requiring that yard debris be placed in bio-degradable paper bags or plastic containers. Administrator Tucker expressed the need to make the public aware of this potential change and to begin to adapt.

Director Pitts stated he had learned that Bees Ferry will not accept plastic bags beginning March 2011.

B. Consideration of Contracts in Excess of \$10,000 – None

8. Miscellaneous Business

Administrator Tucker asked if either Chair Duffy or Councilmember Stone had a person to recommend serving on the ad hoc water quality committee; Councilmember Stone has submitted Mark Bayne. Chair Duffy offered Brian Barcomb.

Next Meeting Date: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 2, 2011.

9. Adjourn

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m.; Councilmember Stone seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk