

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
3:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 2, 2011

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 2, 2011 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Stone and Thomas, Chair Duffy, Administrator Tucker, Public Works Director Pitts and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. 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. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 4, 2011 as submitted; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments** – None

4. **Departmental Reports for October 2011** – Director Pitts

A. Trash Collection Tracking Reports

B. Vehicle Maintenance

Director Pitts stated that garbage collections were up in October for the second straight month. Public Works' personnel concentrated on beach path maintenance in October, and paths between First and Twenty-fifth Avenues were mowed; limbs remain to be trimmed. As of November 2, paths through Forty-sixth Avenue have been mowed.

All preventative maintenance services have been completed, and all vehicles have tires that meet highway standards.

Councilmember Stone questioned whether the paving company would be asked to pay for the additional sweeping by Starr Cleaning; Administrator Tucker stated that the City had assumed responsibility for the sweep, because the City was receiving complaints. Prior to the Starr Cleaning sweep, the paving company swept, but the job was less than satisfactory.

Director Pitts reported that fewer and fewer plastic bags of yard debris are being encountered; Charleston County officially went to paper bags as of November 1, 2011.

Director Pitts stated that, in the future, yard debris volumes will go down, because all debris will go to Bees Ferry instead of 4B. He anticipates a small cost savings since there is no cost for the debris at Bees Ferry, unlike 4B; on the other hand, fuel cost may increase since Bees Ferry is farther.

5. Old Business

Update on Drainage Projects

Director Pitts reported that he had attended the Charleston County pre-construction meeting that covered both Sparrow Drive and Lauden; the Sparrow project was scheduled to begin on November 1st and Lauden was to begin on December 1st. Since that meeting, the two (2) projects have been reversed, i.e. Lauden will begin November 1st and Sparrow, December 1st due to the work being done by the IOP Water and Sewer Commission.

The small project on 21st Avenue discussed at the September meeting has mobilized and should be completed in a matter of days.

Councilmember Stone asked whether the decision had been made to continue with the drainage project at the northern end of the island between 46th and 52nd Avenues. Administrator Tucker commented that eighty-six thousand dollars (\$86,000) was budgeted in FY12 for engineering design on the next phase, but punch list items remain on the 53rd to 57th Avenue project, as well as the final payout to Eadie's. In addition, the City needs to submit all of the paid receipts to Charleston County to account for the CTC and Transportation Sales Tax funds spent for the project to reconcile the remaining balance.

The Administrator expressed the opinion that the City would be well served to continue with Civil Site Engineering (CSE) based on their familiarity with the infrastructure in Wild Dunes and with the project just completed; Administrator Tucker added that the water from this basin will go to another outfall within Wild Dunes unless an alternative is designed.

Chair Duffy commented that the City needs to have sole source justification for continuing to work with CSE to ensure transparency.

6. New Business

A. Recommendation for Award of Contract to Commercial Waste Hauling to Carolina Waste Industries at \$0.47/cubic yard

Chair Duffy explained that this bid is for dumpster service on the island and asked whether it was a per incident type of charge.

Director Pitts responded that the services vary based on population, i.e. more in the tourist season than in the off-season. By varying the number of times the dumpsters are emptied by season a cost savings in County User Fees is generated for the island's businesses; the user fee is based on the number of times the container is dumped, not the volume of trash.

Administrator Tucker explained that the City receives the billing from Charleston County for the user fees and bills them back to the island's businesses. Director Pitts attributes the decrease in cost per cubic yard to the fact that Carolina Waste's containers are already in place on the island, and the twenty-seven hundred dollars (\$2,700) cited is the estimated monthly cost based on typical volumes.

Responding to Councilmember Stone's inquiry, the Director stated that one hundred thirty (130) dumpsters are on the island that vary in size from four to six to eight (4-6-8) yards.

Administrator Tucker informed the members of the Committee that the Isle of Palms is one of a very few local governments in the state that provides the containers and trash removal service free of charge to its businesses. Previous Councils have agreed to continue the service as a means of nurturing the local business community.

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to recommend to Ways and Means the award of the Commercial Waste Hauling contract to Carolina Waste Industries at \$0.47 per cubic yard; Councilmember Stone seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Pitts explained that he wanted to put all waste hauling under one (1) vendor, namely Carolina Waste Industries, for the City's compactor and the two (2) golf courses with no change in cost. Pickup is done on a will-call basis and the service is not contracted.

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

7. Miscellaneous Business

Administrator Tucker related a request she has received from a Front Beach business for a path to the compactor; the business explained that its employees were having difficulties maneuvering through the gravel parking lot to the compactor. Staff will be investigating the problem and possible solutions to report at the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date: 4 p.m., Wednesday, January 4, 2012

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:31 p.m.; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk