

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

4:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 7, 2011

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Stone and Thomas, Chair Duffy, Administrator Tucker, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban, 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 public and press had been duly notified 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 July 6, 2011 as submitted; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to reorder the agenda to discuss the 21st Avenue drainage issue, Item 6B, at this point in the meeting; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Director Pitts introduced Chuck Jarman representing the Stormwater Division of Charleston County Public Works. Mr. Jarman began his remarks with a brief history of the stormwater program reflecting on the fact that this department is charged with ensuring compliance with the NPDES' regulations for Charleston County and several small municipalities in the county. In the capacity of managing the stormwater issues for the Isle of Palms, his department has aided the City in repairing small drainage issues, and, therefore, was contacted about the issues raised at 21st Avenue. In Charleston County's Public Works FY12 budget, fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) has been allocated for drainage improvements for the City of Isle of Palms.

Mr. Jarman reported that County Council, in its meeting in August 2011, rescinded the policy whereby his department could act on requests, like 21st Avenue, without getting approval from County Council. As Mr. Jarman explained the situation, the City has three (3) options, which are as follows:

- 1) The City can wait until the spring of 2012 when Charleston County would be on the island for routine maintenance;
- 2) The City can take the request before Charleston County Council for approval for Charleston County Public Works to do the work sooner, which may or may not be approved; or
- 3) The City can bid the work and submit the bill to Charleston County Public Works with payment from the FY12 budget of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

Chair Duffy asked Mr. Jarman about the status for the Sparrow Drive and Lauden Street improvements that Charleston County was to perform; Mr. Jarman responded that these projects had been funded before Council's August actions. The Sparrow Drive project will go before County Council this month with the recommendation to accept the lowest bid; assuming the contract is awarded, the Notice to Proceed should be issued in thirty (30) days.

In general discussion, Mr. Jarman informed the Committee that the revenues that finance stormwater projects come from four (4) sources, i.e. half-cent sales taxes, CTC funds, Charleston County General Funds and stormwater fees. The City of Isle of Palms generates approximately one hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000) annually in stormwater revenue, of which ninety percent (90%) is typically collected. Administrator Tucker added that the City pays Charleston County a portion of the collections to administer the stormwater program for the City. The Administrator added that the City has requested an accounting of the balance of stormwater fees available to the City; the County is in the process of gathering that data.

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to recommend to the Ways and Means Committee that the City move forward in obtaining pricing for and to proceed with the work at 21st Avenue and to forward the billing to Charleston County for payment from stormwater fees; Councilmember Stone seconded, and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Citizen's Comments

Jim Owens, 2805 Palm Boulevard, stated that a residence beside his is a six (6) bedroom rental property that has had only two (2) garbage rollout carts; he reported seeing rats, raccoons and opossums crawl out of the carts. One reason he was appearing before the Committee was to ask whether the City has an ordinance mandating the number of rollout carts a rental unit must have.

Mr. Owens' second inquiry was to find out whether the City offered public sewer service on Palm Boulevard between 28th and 29th Avenues; Chair Duffy referred Mr. Owens to the IOP Water and Sewer Commission.

In conclusion, Mr. Owens questioned the proper way to dispose of a rat that he had trapped; he was referred to the City's Animal Control Officer.

4. Department Reports for July/August 2011 – Director Pitts

Director Pitts reported that the Department's emphasis for July had been beach sweeps; he noted that he had authorized overtime for debris removal on the weekend after July 4th. In the month of July, vehicle maintenance was low and garbage continued to trend downward.

For the month of August, the Director corrected the garbage tonnage report to 39.14 tons for the month. The focus for the Department was to catch up on mowing, and they were able to do so with assistance from the Recreation Department. The replacement of a clutch fan and the purchase of tire caused vehicle maintenance to be higher than usual. Again in August, the volume of garbage trended lower than the previous three (3) years.

5. Old Business

Update on Drainage Projects

Dave Stevens of Civil Site Environmental reports that the work on the 53rd to 57th Avenue Drainage project has been completed; Assistant Dziuban, Director Pitts and Director Kerr will accompany Mr. Stevens on a final walk-through next week. Additional approvals from Charleston County and SCDOT are required before the work can be finalized.

Chair Duffy requested that any funds remaining from the original project budget be re-directed to the next phase of drainage between 46th and 52nd Avenues. Administrator Tucker stated that a request must be sent to Charleston County to use the funds in that manner.

6. New Business

A. Review of FY12 Water Main Replacements by IOP Water and Sewer

Included in the meeting packets were copies of the letters the Water and Sewer Commission is sending to island residents to inform them of the work that will begin in October; water mains will be replaced between 30th and 41st Avenue on Cameron Boulevard, from Palm to Cameron along 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 36th, 37th and 39th Avenues, along 30th Avenue and Wills Way. Assistant Dziuban stated that the information had been provided for the Committee because they could be contacted by residents once the work begins since the Water and Sewer Commission will be working through the same issue of obstructions in the right-of-way that the City did in its drainage project.

B. Consideration of Purchase of Toro Z-track Mower in the amount of \$8,087.96, state contract pricing

Director Pitts noted that the FY12 budgeted amount for the mower was thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500) and stated that the replacement of the John Deere mower had been deferred for three (3) years.

The Committee agreed that the Director should proceed with the purchase.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Beach Monitoring Results for June/July 2011

Beach monitorings for the months of June and July were well with the parameters set by DHEC.

Next Meeting Date: 4 p.m., Tuesday, October 4, 2011 in Council Chambers.

Chair Duffy inquired of the Administrator whether the City had an ordinance setting the number of trash receptacles a rental unit must have, and she responded that there was no such ordinance.

Councilmember Stone commented that the rental agencies try to monitor their rental units in an effort to avoid issues with the Livability Court.

8. Adjourn

**MOTION: Councilmember Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m.;
Chair Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk