

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Isle of Palms, South Carolina
January 10, 2008

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2008 at the Public Works Building, 1303 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present were Council members Bettelli, Cronin and Loftus, Public Works Director Pitts, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban, and City Clerk Copeland.

1. **Call to Order.** Councilman Bettelli called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

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

MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to elect Councilman Bettelli to the position of Chair of the Public Works Committee; Councilman Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: Councilman Bettelli moved to elect Councilman Cronin to the position of Vice Chair of the Public Works Committee; Councilman Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 12, 2007 as submitted; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **Citizens' Comments**

Bev Ballow of 3009 Waterway Boulevard introduced herself as an observer of the meetings of the Public Works Committee for the IOP Neighborhood Association; she will attend all of the Committee meetings. She requested a copy of the proposed amendments related to holes on the beach.

5. **Department Reports for November and December 2007 – Director Pitts**

Director Pitts noted that there had been normal amounts of sanitation and debris. The crews have been involved in general maintenance of City property concentrating on the Front Beach restrooms. Vehicle maintenance for November was average while in December the expense was very low. The Director believes that the tonnage increase in December could be attributed to the pickup schedule.

Director Pitts reported that the Isle of Palms is one the municipalities that recycles at a higher percentage, but the tonnage data is not available since Charleston County picks up more than one island when they come to the Isle of Palms. He informed the Committee that the island now has cardboard recycling due to the efforts of Assistant Dziuban. The container is located in the parking lot of Fire Station #1, and the announcement is on the City's website. Assistant Dziuban stated that the container is fully service by the County at no cost to the City through a grant; she wanted assurance from the Committee that they had no problems with the placement of the container. Pictures of the container are attached to the minutes.

Councilman Loftus suggested that some kind of notice about the container be prepared to distribute through the Building Department to families moving onto the island. Director Pitts commented that signs indicating "Cardboard Only" will be ordered to discourage people from depositing regular garbage into the container. Councilman Cronin thought it also be helpful to have a sign indicating that the site is "Under Surveillance."

6. Old Business

A. Ordinance Revisions related to rollout carts and debris/holes – update

Chairman Bettelli noted that there were no amendment suggestions on rollout carts discussed at the previous meeting. Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban stated that the changes requested at the November meeting are in the attorney's hands and "on his list;" she had asked that he complete the legal review for the February meeting.

Councilman Loftus asked if the catamarans that have been abandoned on the beach were considered to be foreign substances. Chairman Bettelli remarked that the removal of the catamarans is very difficult and, with the way some are embedded in the dunes, the dunes would be destroyed to remove them.

Director Pitts informed the Committee that, about a year ago, Administrator Tucker had requested that Public Works remove the abandoned catamarans from the beach; he removed five (5), but two (2) others remain that he is certain have been discarded by their owners. Chairman Bettelli charged the Director with speaking with the Administrator about the removal of the last two (2).

On the subject of rollout carts, Chairman Bettelli summarized the ordinance as stating that the carts cannot be rolled out before 7 p.m. the evening before pickup and must be removed from the street no later than 9 a.m. the day of pickup. In addition, the ordinance states that the rollout carts are not to be visible from the street. In discussion,

one of the options considered was allowing the carts to be placed on the streets at an earlier hour in the winter months.

The visibility issue of the rollout carts raised many questions, i.e. is a rollout cart in a corral considered not to be visible? Councilman Cronin commented that the corrals are a deterrent to the efficiency of the Public Works crews. Director Pitts added that, if the corral is on a DOT right-of-way, the corral is itself illegal, but, since it is on public property, the crews will empty them. When a corral is legal, it is on private property and his crews are not allowed to enter private property for liability reasons. Councilman Cronin stated that the corrals are everywhere on the island and many are in the public right-of-way which impacts the ability of people to park and puts the refuse close to the street. He related that one idea the Committee was developing was for the City to gain control of the rights-of-way; this action would give the City the authority to have corrals, bushes, trees, etc. removed from the rights-of-way on the island.

A suggestion from Councilman Loftus was to state that rollout carts must be kept a specific distance from the roadway.

Councilman Cronin recommended that Livability Officer Bill O'Donnell attend the next meeting to give the Committee his recommendations on the problems that he confronts and to bring to the Committee any matter of import that the Public Works Committee could address.

B. 21st Avenue Beach Access (CDBG Grant)

Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban recounted that the City had been the sub-recipient of a grant to widen the 21st Avenue access for the elderly and the handicapped. She reported that a timeline has been established to ensure that the necessary reports are filed in a timely manner and to ensure that the demolition and construction take place before April 15, 2008. The permit has been applied for and the design is to be delivered imminently. The RFP is to go out the first of February in order to have the bid results for the February meetings of this Committee and Ways and Means. The grant is for \$20,000 of a \$120,000 project.

C. Beach Management Plan Status

Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban reported that Chris Jones is working furiously to complete the revisions that OCRM wanted; some of the revisions are to format the plan more like the Comprehensive Plan, to provide more information on parking, parking information to appear on the City's website and to address right-of-way encroachments.

A draft of the parking information insert to the website has been completed, so that information will appear soon. The goal is to have the revision of the Local Beach Management Plan completed for it to go before City Council on January 22, 2008; Council must approve the plan before it can be sent to OCRM.

7. New Business

A. Public Safety Building Drainage

Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban noted that this item was added to the agenda at the request of Administrator Tucker. The issue is that, when the Front Beach Enhancement project took place, there was a drainage plan for the Front Beach area. The construction of the Public Safety Complex will create more impermeable area; therefore, the architects have been asked to consider the Front Beach drainage plan in conjunction with the drainage plan for the new complex so that its drainage does not negatively impact drainage from the Front Beach area. There is a cost associated with that work, and Assistant Dziuban quoted storm drainage expenses from Cole+Russell's email of \$93,077 and \$157,185, plus a \$5,000 design cost from ADC Engineering.

Director Pitts commented that, if the drainage has to come down Ocean Boulevard, this work **must** be done because the Ocean Boulevard storm drainage is maxed out. He said the drainage should go through the Post Office to exit the island via Palm Boulevard and 11th Avenue.

B. Cardboard Recycling Container – covered earlier

Councilman Loftus proposed that areas at beach accesses be reserved for golf cart parking only for residents of the Isle of Palms who would have special registrations for their carts. He noted that he has observed several accesses that have the space necessary for such parking. Councilman Loftus agreed to identify the beach accesses where there was enough space for the next meeting. Councilman Bettelli remarked that this may have to go through DOT, which makes it a Public Safety issue, but he was satisfied for the Public Works Committee to do the work and to send it to the Public Safety Committee.

8. Miscellaneous

Director Pitts informed the Committee that DHEC will be on site Tuesday, January 15 for inspections of the Underground Storage and dispensers at the Marina and the Public Works facilities.

Public Works Committee
January 10, 2008
Page 5 of 5

Chairman Bettelli read the letter of praise for the Public Works Department from Martha Jane Soltow.

The next meeting was scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 13, 2008.

9. **MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m. as there was no further business to come before the Committee; Chairman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland, City Clerk