

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2009

The Public Works Committee of the City of Isle of Palms, South Carolina, held its regular meeting at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2009 in the Public Works Building located at 1301 Palm Boulevard. Present for the meeting were Committee members Bergwerf and Duffy, Chairman Bettelli, Director Pitts, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland.

1. Chairman 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. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

**MOTION: Councilman Duffy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 3, 2009 as submitted; Councilwoman Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **Citizens' Comments - None**

**4. Departmental Report for September – Director Pitts**

Director Pitts reported that, except for the City's special events, September had been a quiet month. Work has begun on cleaning the beach access paths; the primary paths – 21<sup>st</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> and the Front Beach/Public Restroom area – have been completed, and sand was shoveled from the public showers.

The largest maintenance item for the vehicle fleet was for tires; this was followed by work required for Director Pitts' truck because the cylinder dropped causing the fuel injector to fail allowing fluid to dump into the cylinder thereby bending the rock arm. He noted that this is the second time that the fuel injector on this model and year Ford has failed; he has been told that the failure is attributable to the ethanol in the fuel.

The Director reported that other City departments that operate small tools have reported increased maintenance costs on the small tools; he has been told that there is a need for additives to the gasoline to avoid these maintenance issues, and both the Public Works and Fire Departments are using these additives on all of the small tools. The problem is that the alcohol in the ethanol is eating the hoses and material is processing through the tools in the fuel.

Eadie's returned to the island in October with the vacuum truck and is restructuring ditches; there will be a progress report in November.

**5. Old Business**

**Update on 54<sup>th</sup> to 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drainage Project**

Assistant Dziuban reminded the Committee that Dave Stevens, the engineering consultant, had been asked by the Wild Dunes investors to re-draw certain of the plans, and the City has not received new plans at this date.

**6. New Business**

**A. 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue Sidewalk**

Chairman Bettelli recounted discussions by City Council members relative to petitions signed by residents of 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue about the state of the sidewalk; it was noted that the City has requested CTC funding for that project in the past, but had not received funding for it. Since 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue is a part of the state road system, copies of the petitions have been sent to SC DOT to ensure their awareness of the residents' needs. If the City were to spot-repair the problem areas, the City would create liability issues for itself regarding those repairs.

As a new member to the Committee and City Council, Councilwoman Bergwerf asked to be educated on the process by which streets, sidewalks, potholes, etc. are repaired/maintained. Assistant Dziuban related that there had been a meeting with Charleston County recently where the multiple sources of money for public works projects had been discussed. Once an application for funds has been made, the actual approval occurs when the City's goals and the goals of the financing source agree. Assistant Dziuban reported that she and Director Pitts had attended a meeting earlier in the day where transportation sales tax funds were discussed; the Committee selected the item that the City had prioritized fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) in its list to fund. (The project is to increase the pipe size at the Lauden Street drainage to ease flooding in that area.)

Councilman Duffy asked if there was a way that the City could fund the state to repair/replace the 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue sidewalk and not have the City assume responsibility for it.

Chairman Bettelli suggested another tactic whereby Director Pitts would report a sidewalk repair to 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue every month to SC DOT; Director Pitts was asked to determine the location of the potholes and to report them.

Director Pitts told Councilwoman Bergwerf that, several years ago, there had been a multi-year schedule of the roads indicating the year each was to be repaved. That schedule has since been abandoned and replaced by a computer software program that takes survey data of the volume of use and conditions of the roads to prioritize a re-paving schedule; the program also seeks to cluster work.

Councilman Duffy asked Assistant Dziuban to determine if SC DOT was in receipt of the petitions.

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

Chairman Bettelli reported that Director Pitts has cleared the end bay of the Public Works Building; the Police Department used the space to store evidence that was too large for the lockers in City Hall. Since the area is secure and there is money in budget for four (4) pumps, timing is good for the preparation of an RFP for the purchase of these pumps.

**7. Miscellaneous Business**

Chairman Bettelli thanked the Director and his staff for their assistance with the Plant-a-Palm marker unveiling and the Connector Run the previous weekend. The Chairman asked Director Pitts to follow up with Charleston County on the cleanup of the crosswalks following the repaving that was done on Cameron Boulevard. As a result of discussions at the Public Safety Committee meeting on Monday, October 4, Chairman Bettelli asked that the pooper-scooper at 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue be monitored closely; there had been comments at the meeting that it is frequently out of bags. Director Pitts explained that the bags had been ordered more than three (3) weeks ago, but had not been received.

**Next Meeting Date: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 4, 2009.**

**8. Adjourn**

**MOTION: Councilwoman Bergwerf moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m.; Councilman Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland  
City Clerk