

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Isle of Palms, South Carolina

April 9, 2007

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2007 at the Public Works Building, 1303 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present were Chairman Bettelli, Committee members Cronin and Hanbury, City Administrator Tucker and Public Works Director Pitts.

**1. Call to Order.** Councilman Bettelli called the meeting to order and stated that members of the press and the public had been duly notified in accordance with State Law.

**2. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes.**

**MOTION: Councilwoman Hanbury made a motion to approve the March 12, 2007 minutes as presented; seconded by Councilman Cronin; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**3. Citizens' Comments.**

Carol Anderson, Ms. Anderson spoke regarding recycling on the beach. She stated that she has already talked to Bill Schupp, and he said he could pick up the recycling containers on the beach; however, special equipment would need to be purchased. The City of Myrtle Beach uses this equipment, and they may have some used ones that could be purchased. Ms. Anderson spoke with someone at Charleston County and they suggested putting a bin down at the County Park. It would just be for bottles, plastics and cans. Director Pitts stated the blue recycling containers are switched out every week. The main problem he sees is how to get the material out of the hopper to the recycler because Charleston County is not equipped for that operation. Ms. Anderson stated Bill Schupp has a new truck that could empty the material. She suggested the City conduct a trial run in the area of the beach that gets the most use and decide how many recycle cans might be used. Director Pitts will research how the City of Folly Beach is handling their program. Administrator Tucker noted she thought a volunteer group was running the program, and the City of Folly Beach only paid for the barrels. She stated this had been previously discussed and the unanswered question concerned who could separate the recyclables.

**4. Monthly Department Report for March 2007**

**(A) Maintenance Report**

Director Pitts highlighted several items from the report. (Exhibit A) The Palm Boulevard crosswalks were resurfaced, although they still need to be painted; Ten (10) new pooper-scooper boxes were installed primarily from 21<sup>st</sup> to 35<sup>th</sup> Avenues; The 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue ditch debris was cleaned internally by Public Works with the exception of the illegal dumping of the leaves; and barrel painting was completed in conjunction with the Garden Club.

**(B) Trash Collection Tracking Report**

Director Pitts reported that extra trucks had to be run in March due to yard debris. He stated that during the same time period last year, 877 cubic yards were collected; this March 937 cubic yards were collected, for an increase of 60 cubic yards, or about 20-25 tons extra. The department's temporary labor expense is already 84% for the fiscal year.

**5. Old Business**

**(A) RFB for pre-disaster response post-storm debris removal – Update.**

Director Pitts stated it is still in draft form with nothing new to report.

**(B) Waterway Boulevard Bike Path Replacement (Status)**

Administrator Tucker stated the bike path replacement is in progress and it has been well controlled during construction. She noted she does not yet have an explanation as to why it is not eight feet where it could be, but states it looks very nice the way it is. It appears they are in the final stage.

**(C) 21st Avenue Beach Access (CDBG) – (Status)**

Administrator Tucker stated the city is waiting to hear if the City received the grant. If so, this project will be done in the off-season next year.

**(D) NPDES Storm Water Management Plan**

Administrator Tucker submitted a letter to Charleston County requesting for the Isle of Palms to be part of their system and are awaiting their response. The City has not yet heard from DHEC concerning the submitted plan.

**(E) Drainage: Hartnett and Twenty-ninth Avenue.**

Director Pitts stated he talked with the superintendent of the Harbor Course and the superintendent is fine with cutting the vegetation. He prefers cutting at the beginning of the week during the morning, before the golfers get started. Director Pitts is waiting to hear back from Tony Maglione and will follow-up tomorrow to get an engineering proposal. Director Pitts stated he raked where the ditch is congested and it has helped. Hartnett Boulevard and the ditch at the Recreation Department are now dry. There is still water at Lauden and going into the covered ditch.

**(F) Garbage Ordinance.**

Councilwoman Hanbury stated that the sentence “no cart shall be allowed to remain clearly visible from the street or the right of way” needs to be removed from the garbage ordinance because it is not enforced. Unless some homeowners build a shed, there is nowhere for them to hide the carts. Councilman Cronin noted that the livability officer could enforce this; however, questioned whether it would be worth the time. Councilman Bettelli stated the intent of the law is not to have all the trashcans sitting out, however; questioned if it was feasible. He did not believe the ordinance needed to be changed. Councilwoman Hanbury noted that it is a growing obvious violation. Also, another problem is that the City has not only sanctioned, but also helped, people determine where they can build their shed for their cart on the right-of-way. Director Pitts noted that he

strongly deters this to the residents and tells them to apply for a SCDOT encroachment permit that they cannot obtain. Councilwoman Hanbury stated that these sheds need to be removed and further noted that the corrals in Wild Dunes are a big problem. Director Pitts stated they do not pick up corrals in Wild Dunes if they are on private property; however, if there is an illegal corral on DOT property, it is serviced on some of the routes. Administrator Tucker stated those issues in neighborhoods where people do not properly tend to their garbage can become an extremely big issue and noted that this problem had been identified and needs work.

## **6. New Business**

Administrator Tucker recommended to discuss items (B) and (C), holding the budget for the last item.

### **(B) Drainage Between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Avenues.**

Director Pitts stated that this is the location of the previous illegal dump, and Eadie's is to look at it and present an estimate. He questioned whether the City needs to recoup the cost from the homeowner. He took photos of the mound of leaves, probably 30-40 bags worth of loose leaves, that a resident threw into the ditch. Director Pitts will discuss with Douglas Kerr. A ticket can be issued and the judge can rule if the homeowner will not admit to dumping the leaves.

### **(C) Long Range Shore Management Plan - (Status)**

Administrator Tucker noted that Chris Jones has made significant progress and will be meeting with some of the stakeholders and contributors of information tomorrow.

### **Other New Business**

Councilwoman Hanbury stated she was concerned about information in the winter issue of Risk Letter, published by the Municipal Association of South Carolina, regarding liability issues. She inquired how the city could avoid possible liability issues. Councilwoman Hanbury stated the City needs to stay on top of SCDOT about problematic matters. Administrator Tucker stated that if the City knows of something that is extremely dangerous, and SCDOT will not handle it promptly, the City needs to take preventative action so no one will be hurt. The City needs to first contact SCDOT to make them aware of the problem; the City can respond to the problem if SCDOT is not responsive in a timely fashion, and the City can follow-up with SCDOT to let them know the City corrected the problem. Director Pitts stated a process is in place, and he has been handling items in this way. Director Pitts noted that SCDOT just repaved the walk at Sixth Avenue and Ocean. He talked with Joey Harris at SCDOT in January about having this work done, and Mr. Harris requested Mr. Pitts to not put in the work order until February 28<sup>th</sup> when the weather would be more conducive for concrete work. Administrator Tucker stated the lot at 120 Sparrow, where the water has drained for many years, now has a house being constructed on it. This needs to be monitored during hard rains in case further action is needed. Administrator Tucker noted she would find out what type of wastewater disposal that lot has.

She also noted that an e-mail was received by a resident, thanking the Public Works Department for making an extra pick-up of a refrigerator and spoiled food when she returned from a vacation to find a refrigerator that had been out for over a week.

**(A) Review of Budget for FY07-08**

Administrator Tucker highlighted items concerning the Public Works Department. She noted that the estimated budget for health insurance has been changed to reflect the 14% increase and the proposed portion of dependent health care coverage is also in the budget. The new fee of \$175 per radio for new digital service has been added, along with an estimate of the results of the pending compensation study. There was discussion regarding street sweeping. The S.C. Department of Transportation does have a contract to sweep the Connector, but it is not swept as much as needed. It is in this budget because the gateway to the Island should be reflected appropriately. Administrator Tucker noted she has contacted SCE&G regarding underground wiring from the intersection of 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Palm Boulevard to the Methodist Church, but has yet not heard back regarding cost. There is no monetary amount listed on that line item. She noted that starting a reserve for this project should be a future consideration.

Director Pitts noted that the Public Works' Department temporary labor expenses are already at 84% due to debris removal. This should be considered for possible change to the FY07-08 budget.

**MOTION: Councilman Bettelli made a motion to send the Public Works Budget to the Ways and Means Committee; seconded by Councilman Cronin; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**7. Miscellaneous**

Councilman Bettelli asked Director Pitts to look at 3502 Hartnett, since there are holes in the drainage similar to 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue. There are sinkholes in the yard where the drain is buried.

**Set Date for Next Meeting - 4:30 Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at the Public Works Building.**

**8. Adjournment**

**MOTION: Councilman Cronin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Hanbury; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Bettelli, Chairman