

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
5:00 p.m., Monday, November 5, 2012

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2012 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Carroll and Loftus, Chair Buckhannon, Administrator Tucker, Public Works Director Pitts, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Chair Buckhannon 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 Loftus moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 4, 2012 as submitted; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **Citizens' Comments** – None

**4. Departmental Reports for October 2012** – Director Pitts

According to Director Pitts, October was a relatively normal month with the exception of street sweeping; he successfully made contact with the City's previous vendor who responded quickly for a one-time sweep of the Connector prior to the run on Saturday, October 6. On the same day, Mount Pleasant initiated a Connector sweep as well. Eadie's completed the cleaning of the collection boxes as part of its contract for Year 3.

Based on discussion related to street sweeping at previous meetings, Councilmember Loftus asked for more information. Director Pitts stated that he had called the City's current vendor for a sweep of the Connector and was told that the equipment was in Greenville, therefore, could not sweep for the City. He then tried the phone number for the previous vendor, Sweeping South, and found the company to still be in business under new ownership; Director Pitts added that they "did a wonderful job."

Assistant Dziuban noted that the City typically requests an additional sweep of the Connector prior to the Connector Run; the City's contract has a provision for extra sweeps upon request and at an additional charge. Councilmember Loftus suggested that any new contract include a sweep of the Connector prior to the Connector Run since it is an annual City-sponsored event.

Director Pitts reported that, when Sweeping South was the vendor, they were constantly in communication with him about special events and would coordinate the October street sweeping schedule to include a sweep prior to the Connector Run – it would not be an additional sweep.

Councilmember Carroll asked what other municipalities in the area were using Sweeping South's services; the Director responded that they have a contract with Summerville.

Councilmember Loftus asked whether the work of the current vendor had improved, and Director Pitts commented that it had improved, but still was not satisfactory in his opinion.

Since the current contract will expire soon, Director Pitts has been looking into other possible vendors and has found two (2) landscaping companies who also sweep streets. At this time, he has not seen their equipment and does not know if the equipment is for parking lots or roads.

Administrator Tucker recalled that the City had saved a lot of money with this vendor, but the service delivered has been poor.

Returning to the departmental report, Director Pitts stated that vehicle maintenance was a bit high for October, but he had gotten the last two (2) tires for the Caterpillar. The volume of garbage was less than the historical average, and debris was up about fifteen (15) tons.

Relative to the complaint about the 2A beach access at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Councilmember Loftus asked whether the homeowner had cleaned it; Director Pitts indicated that he has not been to check. The Director said he has received correspondence from the owner's family that they will clean it as they have before.

## **5. Old Business**

### **Update on Single-stream Recycling**

Chair Buckhannon reported that the entire island now has the new ninety-five (95) gallon recycling bins.

Administrator Tucker reported on the public relations activities by Charleston County about the problems the City has encountered relative to rental properties; Carolyn Carusos is the person with whom Assistant Dziuban and Director Kerr have been working on the issue. Ms. Carusos has personally spoken with the property management companies on the island to find out how they handle recycling and learned that each has its own way. She has developed a marketing magnet to distribute to these companies; the magnet is fairly thorough on how to recycle and, in the section relative to rental properties, she has inserted the sentence "Please check with the property manager regarding who is responsible for putting recycling on the curb." The Administrator voiced optimism that the island will see a difference once these materials are distributed.

Chair Buckhannon asked about progress on an educational campaign for residents; Administrator Tucker explained that Charleston County wanted to wait on that aspect until the entire island had the new recycling bins and to determine how effective the instructions on the cans would be.

Councilmember Carroll inquired about whether Steve Gibbons had contacted the City; Administrator Tucker explained that Mr. Gibbons is contracted with some rental properties to take their garbage cans to the curb and return them once serviced. Mr. Gibbons was suggesting that the City could hire him to take care of can that are on the streets when they should not be; the Administrator indicated to Mr. Gibbons that it was unlikely that the City would add to the Public Works' staff to perform that single function.

Councilmember Loftus proposed that the City should contact Charleston County to find out what would be necessary in order for the City to get weekly recycling pickup, rather than bi-weekly, during the peak season. He expressed the belief that a weekly pickup would reduce the number of recycling bins needed on the island; for example, the "wedding house" has seven or eight (7 or 8) green rollout carts, and logic dictates it should have as many recycling bins. The Administrator agreed to contact Charleston County to get an answer to that query.

Director Pitts explained that currently it takes three (3) trucks working a ten (10) hour day to pick up the recycling on the island.

Chair Buckhannon inquired about recycling in the condominiums and was told that there are not provisions for the condos to recycle; some residents/visitors do take recycling to the containers at the marina or receptacles throughout Wild Dunes.

Councilmember Loftus voiced a desire for City Council to recognize Dickie Schweers for his work behind the scenes in getting the Isle of Palms into the single-stream recycling program that reduces costs for the City and promotes the ecology; he thought a proclamation would be appropriate.

**6. New Business – None**

**7. Miscellaneous Business**

**Next Meeting Date: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 9, 2013 in the Conference Room.**

**8. Adjourn**

**MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m.; Chair Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland  
City Clerk