

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

5:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 5, 2014

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 5, 2014 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Ferencz and Loftus, Chair Ward, Administrator Tucker, Director Pitts, Assistant Administrator Dziuban and Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Chair Ward called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Ferencz moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 8, 2014 as submitted; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **Citizens' Comments** – None

4. Departmental Reports for October 2014 – Director Pitts

Director Pitts reported that Public Works' personnel will finish fall cleaning of the beach access paths by the end of November. Eadie's re-structured and cleaned the ditch between 28th Avenue and Waterway Boulevard to help with the sheet runoff at the rear of the Recreation Center. Vehicle maintenance was down for the month, but the Director expects a large bill for the repair the flatbed that was down for the entire month; in the past week, the Caterpillar had to be taken to Summerville to correct hydraulic problems. In October, yard debris was up and garbage was down.

Councilmember Ferencz stated that she had received an email from a resident asking whether the City had ever considered using a biodegradable pooper-scooper bag.

Director Pitts said that the City did consider biodegradable bags in the past, but decided that, because the bags are attached to each other, they were vandalized or strewn all up and down the beach paths.

5. Old Business

A. Whispering Palms Drainage

Administrator Tucker stated that this issue has a long history with the City, dating back to 2001; most recently Director Kerr has been talking with the owners, the Dangerfields, relative to the City's drainage line that runs through their property; the line drains a significant portion of the City to the ocean. The line is fine as it exists today, but if changes are made to the property in the future, i.e. sub-division, it creates a challenge.

According to Director Kerr, the issue before the Committee was moving the drainage easement in preparation for the subdivision of the property; the actual subdivision plan will be heard by the Planning Commission. Director Kerr noted that two (2) easements that would be abandoned

and one (1) would be shifted to a new location that is more conducive to the use of those future lots. The Dangerfield's plan is to divide the one (1) acre lot into three (3) lots; the presence of the easement and the drainage line make it particularly challenging for one (1) proposed lot.

Administrator Tucker added that the Dangerfield's plan is to install a new and larger pipe to replace the line at issue.

The engineering by the owner and the City has been completed, and the determination was that there will be no negative impact from re-locating the drainage line. The outfall currently goes into the marsh, and the owner plans to re-locate the outfall location seventy (70) feet toward the Isle of Palms Connector; OCRM has permitted this change. Director Kerr reported that no portion of the easement is in the SCDOT system, but they did review the plan because the drainage system connects to the drainage system that is in the right-of-way.

Discussion ensued, including the engineer Lewis Seabrook and attorney Michael Layman, relative to the ownership of the second easement on the property, but no one could resolutely answer the question. Mr. Layman wanted assurance that the City would give up any and all rights it might have on the second easement.

The Administrator stated that the City could only act on the easement with the pipe since the ownership of the second easement was unclear.

MOTION: Councilmember Loftus moved to approve the City abandoning the easement on the Dangerfield property and to relocate the drainage pipe at the expense of the Dangerfield family; Councilmember Ferencz seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Consideration of Job Description for Assistant Public Works Director

Assistant Dziuban noted that Committee members were provided with two (2) job descriptions; one (1) is the description that was presented at the last meeting and the second a job description for a future hire. The Committee reviewed the first job description at the October meeting but made no motion to approve it; the second document was prepared at the request of the Committee to be the model for a future employee.

Assistant Dziuban explained that, although the Committee discussed the first job description last month, the Committee did not approve it.

MOTION: Councilmember Ferencz moved to approve the job description for the Public Works Assistant Director; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Front Beach Lights

Assistant Dziuban stated that the project is moving forward; she reported that she, the City employees involved with the Christmas lights, and Sam Loggins from SCE&G did a field survey to indicate where the pedestals are to be placed; SCE&G had started installing the pedestals and some will be in place when the holiday lights are lit. In addition, the City received the agreement today from SCE&G formalizing the arrangement, and it will be signed soon.

Since the contract is unsigned, Chair Ward was concerned whether SCE&G will complete the installation by spring; Administrator Tucker responded that the work would not be held up because of the contract. The Administrator stated that she must read the contract before signing to make sure that it contains the terms the Committee agreed to.

Councilmember Loftus asked whether people could sit on the pedestals; according to Assistant Dziuban, the pedestals are 4X4 posts and people cannot sit on them. Three (3) electrical outlets will be mounted on the post; the outlet will have weather covers that lock.

If anything happens that might hold up the project, Chair Ward asked to be notified immediately.

6. New Business

Contracts in Excess of \$10,000 – None

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2015

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Loftus moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m.; Councilmember Ferencz seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk