

*(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).*

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, February 16, 2012 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M. by the Vice-Chair.

Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr., Vice-Chair  
Councilman Steven A. Stycos  
Councilwoman Leslie A. Luciano

Absent: Councilman Emilio L. Navarro, Chair

Also Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto  
Councilman James E. Donahue  
Gerald Cordy, Director of Administration  
Mark Capuano, Deputy Director of Administration  
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor  
Carlos Lopez, Director of Constituent and Government Affairs  
Robert Strom, Director of Finance  
Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor  
Patrick Quinlan, City Council Legal Counsel  
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Heather Finger, Stenographer

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Councilwoman Luciano, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Correspondence from Robert Vanderslice** regarding landfill odor issue

For information only. No discussion held.

- **Update on Atwood Ave. traffic signal installation** (Councilman Santamaria 12/8/2011 & 1/12/2012)

**Mr. Cordy** stated that a meeting was held this week with D.O.T. and the City's cost will stay at \$25,000, even though it is more and D.O.T. will absorb the difference.

**Chair** asked that this item be continued and asked that the City try to obtain a response from the State.

- **Wayland, Scituate and Phenix Avenues traffic improvements** – Administration report (Cont. from 7/14/2011, 8/11/2011, 9/15/2011, 10/13/2011, 11/17/2011, 12/8/2011 & 1/12/2012).

**Mr. Cordy** stated that the design is completed, but D.O.T. has not received it yet to review it. Once it is reviewed by D.O.T., they will discuss it with the City. We are still looking at Spring 2012 for start of construction.

**Chair** asked that this item be continued.

- **Warwick Avenue Pedestrian safety** (Councilman Stycos) (Cont. 12/8/2011 & 1/12/2012)

**Councilman Stycos** stated that there have been a series of accidents at this area and it needs to be addressed.

**Mr. Cordy** stated that prior to Mr. Ferguson, previous Traffic Engineer, leaving the City, he discussed this with him and was advised that there are other initiatives that will be taking place that will help improve this area.

**Councilman Stycos** suggested that maybe a meeting can be held with the Police Chief. **Mr. Cordy** stated that it may be more beneficial to set up a meeting with the State D.O.T.

**Councilman Stycos** asked that this item be continued.

- **Implementation of the tree ordinance** (Councilman Stycos) (Cont. 12/8/2011 & 1/12/2012)

**Mr. Cordy** presented a handout.

**Councilman Stycos** asked if this handout has gone out to the utilities. **Mr. Cordy** stated, no, not yet, but it will within the next week or so.

**Mr. Cordy** indicated that at the last meeting, Council President Lupino questioned the policy for enforcement of the Ordinance. **Mr. Cordy** stated that it was not part of the Ordinance and our Tree Warden is very proactive.

This item was continued.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution** in support of reinstating the 50/50 sidewalk repair program.

**Councilwoman Luciano** questioned what the Ordinance number is that this Resolution refers to.

**Chair** asked if there is any money set aside for this. Mr. Cordy stated that research was done and no Ordinance was found in the Code. It was just a program according to people he spoke who have been with the City for years. As to the funding, there is none put aside.

**City Clerk** stated that she will concur with Mr. Cordy tomorrow, but this was a policy by previous Administrations, there was no Ordinance ever passed.

**Councilman Archetto** stated that he will draft an Ordinance.

**Chair** stated that the Ordinance should have a Fiscal Note attached.

**Councilwoman Luciano** asked that Councilman Archetto find out how the program worked in the past and approximate cost to the City and property owner.

On motion by Councilwoman Luciano, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to refer this Resolution to the Finance Committee for Fiscal Note and history of previous program. Motion passed unanimously.

**Request** from National Grid for pole location at Old Scituate Ave.

On motion by Councilwoman Luciano, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to approve this request. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

THE CITY OF CRANSTON

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**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
IN SUPPORT OF REINSTATING THE 50/50 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM**

*Passed:*

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*Anthony J. Lupino, Council President*

*Resolved that,*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cranston and all other Cities and Towns in Rhode Island have experienced severe financial constraints and cutbacks.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cranston has been financially constrained and has been working diligently to responsibly solve the fiscal problems.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cranston has an ordinance on record which supports a 50/50 Sidewalk Program

**WHEREAS**, it is evident that the City of Cranston is not enforcing the 50/50 program.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cranston City Council hereby requests that the Department of Public Works, the administration of the City of Cranston or any other entity working within the City on installing sidewalks enforce the 50/50 ordinance.

Sponsored by: Councilman Archetto

Referred to Public Works Committee February 16, 2012

**nationalgrid**

FILED  
12 JAN 12 AM 10:00  
TOWN CLERK

PETITION OF THE NATIONAL GRID FOR  
JOINT OR IDENTICAL POLE LOCATION

TO THE HONORABLE \_\_\_\_\_ TOWN COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_  
OF \_\_\_\_\_ CRANSTON \_\_\_\_\_ RHODE ISLAND  
THE NATIONAL GRID

Respectfully asks permission to locate and maintain poles, wires and fixtures, including the necessary sustain and protecting fixtures to be owned and used in common by you petitioner along and across the following public ways:

OLD SCITUATE AVENUE PROPOSE NEW JO POLE LOCATION REVISED

Wherefore your petitioners pray that they be granted joint of identical location for existing poles and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as they may find necessary, said poles erected or to erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked:207157

DATED 10/20/2011

Your petitioner agrees to reserve or provide space for one cross arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

THE NATIONAL GRID  
BY: John Castro  
John Castro, Engineering

THE VERIZON  
BY: Kyle Stanley  
ORDER

The foregoing petition been read, it was voted that the consent at the

\_\_\_\_\_

For the use of public ways named for the purposes stated in said petition be and it hereby is granted-----  
work to be done subject to the supervision of

A true copy of the vote at the \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ and recorded in Records Book# \_\_\_\_\_ Page#

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK