

(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 Finance Committee was held on Monday, October 1, 2012 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 P.M. by the Vice-Chair.

Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr., Vice-Chair
Councilman Steven A. Stycos
Council President Anthony J. Lupino

Absent: Council Vice-President Emilio L. Navarro, Chair
Councilwoman Leslie A. Luciano
Councilwoman Maria A. Bucci

Also Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto
Councilman Michael W. Favicchio
Gerald Cordy, Director of Administration
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
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 Council President Lupino, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded.

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC HEARING:

OLD BUSINESS:

Falvey Linen Supply, Inc. Appeal from Public Works Director's decision regarding modification to Industrial Wastewater Discharge (Cont. 9/17/2012).

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that the City is continuing to work with Falvey Linen. They are not violating at this point.

Councilman Santamaria requested copies of all reports for the Council meeting. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he probably could provide a summary.

Council President Lupino stated that he hopes this is not going to set a precedent for anyone else going forward asking for any kind of a dispensation or ability to not adhere to what the Council passed. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that it is not a question of giving them a pass. They are not skirting the issue.

Chair asked that this item be continued to next month's meeting and reports be provided at the Council meeting.

Wayland, Scituate and Phenix Avenues traffic improvements – Adm. report
(Cont. from 9/17/2012).

Council President Lupino stated that as you approach the intersection from Scituate Ave. heading East or Wayland Ave. heading West and you are taking a turn onto Phenix Ave., you are blind. It is a serious situation. The only immediate solution is only allow traffic in one direction at one time heading East or West. He does not understand why this cannot be accomplished.

Mr. Cordy stated that D.O.T. indicated to Mr. Mulcahy, the Traffic Engineer, that they were very limited to what they could do to address this situation immediately. This project was to be done in the Spring. This is a D.O.T. project and not a City project.

Council President Lupino asked that he would be happy to meet with Mr. Mulcahy and a representative from D.O.T. at the site.

Chair asked that this item be continued to next month's meeting.

Storm water utility districts Update from administration on feasibility. (Councilman Stycos) (Cont. from 9/17/2012).

Mr. Cordy suggested that this item be moved to the January meeting, since this has various steps to go through.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to continue this item to the January meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

RI Yacht Club Property Reconfiguration and Ocean Avenue Seal Wall (Councilman Stycos) Administration report. (Cont. 9/17/2012).

Mr. Cordy stated that, as to the sinking pavement, it was repaved last week. As to the reconfiguration, according to Carlos Lopez, there needs to be additional communication to identify those changes so we can obtain accurate costs.

Councilman Stycos stated that he will contact Mr. Lopez regarding this.

Chair asked that this item be continued to next month's meeting.

Backflow Valves installation – approved in 2008 (Cont. 9/17/2012).

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he researched this and was unable to find specific Ordinance authorizing money for backflow valves installation.

Council President Lupino stated that there was a Bond approved by the voters and part of that was for flood controllers. His understanding was that, through a Budget Ordinance, a certain amount of dollars was for backflow valves.

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that the only Bond he is aware of was a Bond for storm water inflow infiltration. Check valves have been in the Code since 1972.

Council President Lupino questioned if the City has an inventory of the homes in the flooded areas that have experienced an issue with the lack of a check valve.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to remove this item from the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Report from Administration regarding the use of Open Space Bond to acquire land near Laten Knight Rd. to use as a walking path or trail. (Councilman Stycos).

Councilman Stycos stated that since this was discussed last month, D.E.M. has announced recreational trail grant of up to \$100,000. He encouraged the Administration to contact both Picerne, who manages the property near Laten Knight Rd. and Yardworks, who owns the property along the Pawtuxet River, and discuss possibility of acquiring land for a trail or an easement.

Mr. Cordy stated that there is a State Bond on the November ballot that is a much larger Bond and if that passes, there would be a potential to acquire that property under that Bond.

Chair asked that this item be continued to next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution Reducing Food Sources for Rodents (Councilman Archetto) [\[click here to view\]](#)

Councilman Archetto, sponsor, appeared to speak in favor.

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Council President Lupino, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution.

Under Discussion:

Council President Lupino indicated to line #35 language of “education and abated” and asked how this can be accomplished and what other education can be passed onto the property owner other than keeping trash covered, etc. Mr. Cordy stated that as to the language - “until rodent infestation has been abated”, this will never occur. As to further education to the public, we have a very in depth set of directions on the City's website for dealing with rat infestation and we could add more information to that.

Councilman Stycos stated that, as he has stated in the past, the Mayor's tax letter is a great opportunity, at a very low cost, to education people on promoting recycling and also the rat problem.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to amend line #35 as follows: delete "abated" and add "reduced". Motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Council President Lupino, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Abandonment: Johnson & Wales petition for Harborside Boulevard. [\[click here to view\]](#)

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to approve this Abandonment.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Stycos asked if this property has to be maintained as a road or could it be used for something else.

Wayne Kazarian, Senior Vice-President of Johnson & Wales, appeared to speak and stated that this property does become Johnson & Wales property. It will stay as an easement.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to forward this item to the City Council and institute proceedings in accordance to Engineering recommendation.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Stycos asked what the difference is between the first motion and this motion.

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that this has to be advertised before the full City Council. An Administrative Subdivision has to be done by Johnson & Wales before it can be approved.

Motion to forward this item to the City Council and institute proceedings in accordance with Engineering recommendation passed unanimously.

Pole Location Request: Meshanticut Valley Pkwy - Joint National Grid & Verizon
[\[click here to view\]](#)

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to approve this request. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilman Santamaria stated that he has received constituent complaints regarding water coming out of the ground at Popolink Dr. This is sludge water and it is running along the street. The constituents are stating that this problem was not occurring in the past, but since Veolia did some work on this street, this is ongoing. This also was not occurring during the 2010 flood. He asked that the Administration look into this and e-mail him any and all information.

Council President Lupino asked for an update on standing water on Surrey Dr. and Belvedere. He stated that the water builds up in the Winter and causes icy situation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees