

(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, January 14, 2013, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Chairman.

Present: Councilman Mario Aceto, Chair
Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr., Vice-Chair
Councilman Paul H. Archetto
Councilwoman Sarah Kales Lee
Councilman Michael W. Favicchio
Council Vice-President Michael J Farina
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Also Present: Councilman Donald Botts, Jr.
Councilman Steven A. Stycos
Carlos Lopez, Chief of Staff
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works
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 Santamaria, seconded by Council Vice-President Farina, 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:

RI Yacht Club Property Reconfiguration and Ocean Avenue Sea Wall (Councilman Stycos)
Administration report. (Cont. 12/3/2012).

Councilman Stycos had asked that this item be removed, but agenda had already been sent out. There is nothing to report regarding this item.

Chair asked that this item be removed from the agenda.

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation Appeal dated November 21, 2012 from ruling dated November 5, 2012 on Aug. 15, 2012 Fine Notice. (Cont. 12/3/2012).
[\[click here to view\]](#)

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he can give an update regarding this item at every meeting.

Chair asked that this item be continued.

Resolution 2012-13 Supporting the creation and expansion of outdoor space, recreation and City parks. (Mayor's quarterly report). [\[click here to view\]](#)

Mr. Lopez stated that there is nothing new to report regarding this item at this time. When there is something to report, he asked that the Administration be allowed to bring this forward for an update.

Chair stated that if there are no objections, this should go before the City Council for quarterly updates. Council President Lanni agreed. Chair asked that this item be placed on the Council Docket under "Executive Communications" for quarterly updates.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to place this item on the Council Docket for quarterly updates. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Santamaria asked if the Administration can give status update at the next Council meeting regarding RIRR in an Executive Session. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he can speak on this item during the orientation portion of this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Orientation on Public Works Department by Kenneth R Mason, PE, Dir. Of Public Works

Kenneth Mason, Public Works Director, appeared to speak and presented a handout of the Public Works Department and its Divisions.

Mr. Mason stated that the Waste Management contract will expire June, 2014. The City will be looking into implementing the automated trash pickup similar to Warwick.

Councilman Archetto stated that, even though Legion Way is not in his Ward any longer, he has received numerous complaints of the damaged road condition on Legion Way due to the work done by Providence Water. Mr. Mason stated that Providence Water started the project in October, which is late. What the City requires is that they put in temporary paving patch and wait 90 days and then put a permanent patch. Because they finished late, the asphalt/cement plants are closed and they may have to wait until April to do this. Part of the permit is that they maintain the roads. We have been contacting Providence Water almost every week, advising them to maintain the trenches.

Councilman Archetto questioned if there is a policy in place in the upcoming year to address the issues of structural damage to sidewalks. Mr. Mason stated that the City Code states that sidewalk responsibility is the property owner's, although the City does go out to check on trees.

Councilman Archetto indicated that there were no streets paved in his Ward last Summer. He asked if the paving list is carved in stone or if it can be amended. Mr. Mason stated that the list is not carved in stone. We did have money left over from last year, which we plan on going back this Spring to pave additional streets.

Councilman Santamaria stated that the City receives money from RIRR each year for recycling. He asked if this is included in the Budget and if those monies can be used to purchase trash cans if we implement the automated pickup. He asked how much is left from last year. Mr. Mason stated that he does not believe we spent any of that money to date. We did dedicate approximately \$20,000 to the School Department to stress recycling. He does not think we can use that money for purchasing cans. We would have to go out to bid for that. He has no plans at this time on how to use that money.

Chair asked if the Administration can look into to see if there are any federal funds available to re-implement the 50/50 program. Mr. Lopez stated that the funds we receive from the recycling program are restricted funds and are very specific of what they can be used for.

Chair stated that a few years ago, there was a Consolidated Task Force with the City of Warwick and the City of Warwick has the automated trash pickup. He asked if Cranston has looked into trying to regionalize or speak to the City of Warwick to see if there could be any cost savings. Mr.

Chair asked that Mr. Mason check with Providence Water and obtain a list from them of what they are proposing for the following year of projects and provided that to the City Council.

Chair questioned if there is a procedure in place or a contact person when there are storms or snowstorms for the Council to contact on behalf of constituents. Mr. Lopez stated that the City Council appoints an emergency liaison from the Council and that person can contact the Administration. Council President Lanni stated that Councilman Aceto is appointed the emergency liaison. Mr. Lopez stated that he will provide Councilman Aceto with the emergency contact information.

Chair stated that since the former Police Station has recently been sold, can those funds be used for the recycling program.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosalba Zanni". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the name.

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees