

(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 Wednesday, February 4, 2015, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by the Chairman.

Present: Councilman Mario Aceto, Chair
Council Vice-President Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Councilman Christopher G. Paplauskas
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Absent: Councilman Steven A. Stycos, Vice-Chair
Councilman Michael J Farina

Also Present: Council Majority Leader Paul H. Archetto
Council Minority Leader Michael W. Favicchio
Robert Coupe, Director of Administration/Acting Personnel Director
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 Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, 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:

Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 45- 46-5(a)(2) Pending litigation:

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation Appeal dated November 21, 2012 from ruling dated November 5, 2012 on Aug. 15, 2012 Fine Notice. (Cont. 6/3/2013, 1/6/2014, 2/3/2014 & 7/7/2014). [[click here to view](#)]

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation Dec. 7, 2012 Appeal of Fine Notice dated Aug. 15, 2012. (Cont. 6/3/2013, 1/6/2014, 2/3/2014 & 7/7/2014). [[click here to view](#)]

RIRRC Appeal of DPW Director's Decision on RIRRC's Petition for Review of Modification to Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit #1808. (Cont. 11/4/2013, 1/6/2014, 2/3/2014 & 7/7/2014). [[click to view](#)]

Chair stated that since Solicitor is not present yet, the above items will be discussed at the end of the agenda.

10-14-08 Ordinance in amendment of Title 8.12 of the Code of the City of Cranston 2005, Entitled "Garbage, Rubbish, Etc." (Trash Amnesty Dates) (Cont. 12/1/2014). [[click to view](#)]

Chair asked that this Ordinance be continued since there is one more meeting of the Trash Amnesty Committee scheduled for the Wednesday after the February Council meeting.

On motion by Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to continue this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Park View Blvd. (field at end of street) Report on Brownfield Phase 2 clean-up costs.**

Chair stated that this request is from Councilman Stycos and since he is not present this evening, he asked for a continuance.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Council Vice-President Santamaria, it was voted to continue this item. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Petition from National Grid and Verizon for pole location at Pettaconsett Ave.** [[click to view](#)]

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Council Vice-President Santamaria, it was voted to approve this Petition. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Plowing of City School Buildings and Sidewalks (Councilman Aceto)**

Anthony Liberatore, Director of Parks and Recreation, appeared to speak and stated that he is present this evening to answer any questions as far as School side and versus City side in snow removal. He referred to a handout of lists of areas and schools in the City and what the City handles as far as snow plowing.

Council President Lanni indicated that some elected officials from the School Committee took to social media and when School was cancelled, they told the parents to call their City Council member. He takes offense to that. He suggested that the list provided by Mr. Liberatore be sent to every School Committee member to show where the responsibility is.

Mr. Liberatore stated that the City clears snow at Cranston High School West, Western Hills Middle School, Hope Highlands Elementary School and City Hall parking lot, which is also used by the teachers and students of Cranston High School East. He also stated that he contacted Mr. Powers of the School Department on Wednesday morning after the snow storm and indicated to him that these four locations were plowed, but they still cancelled schools for the next two days. We were shocked to hear that the schools were closed.

Mr. Mason stated that he believes the School Department did not start removing snow until Wednesday morning.

Mr. Liberatore stated that the reason we do these schools and lots is because during the summer camp that the City runs, the schools provide eight buses five days a week for eight weeks at no charge.

Mr. Mason stated that the City provides the School Department salt and sand that the School Department uses, at no charge.

Council President Lanni asked that the City Clerk forward a copy of the list provided by Mr. Liberatore to all the members of the School Committee.

Councilman Aceto asked if the Administration could do that or post it on the City's website. Mr. Lopez stated that perhaps someone from the City Council reach out to someone at the School Department to see why they feel that the City is responsible for the school closings and address this issue directly. He also stated that we are letting something posted on social media drive what we are reacting to. This should be addressed directly with the School Department.

Council President Lanni stated that he thinks this list should be posted on the City's website along with what the School's responsibilities are also.

Council Vice-President Santamaria asked who is responsible for clearing snow from RIPTA stops. Mr. Lopez stated that the responsibility falls on RIPTA. He stated that if the Administration or City Council receives call from a constituent regarding this, the Administration will contact RIPTA to address it.

City Clerk stated that Councilman Farina is stuck in traffic and will not be attending the meeting this evening.

City Clerk asked for clarification if she is to send the list provided by Mr. Liberatore to the School Committee. Councilman Aceto asked that the City Clerk send the list to the School Committee members and the Superintendent.

Council Minority Leader Favicchio stated that the list does not state who is responsible for these sites. Mr. Liberatore stated that Parks and Recreation is. Council Minority Leader Favicchio stated that this should be added to the hearing on the list.

Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 45- 46-5(a)(2) Pending litigation:

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On motion by Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 45- 46-5(a)(2) Pending litigation. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting went into Executive Session at 7:00 P.M.

Present in Executive Session: Councilman Aceto, Council Vice-President Santamaria, Councilman Paplauskas, Council President Lanni; Council Majority Leader Archetto, Council Minority Leader Favichio, Robert Coupe, Director of Administration/Acting Personnel Director; Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor; Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works; Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk; Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees.

On motion by Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to come out of Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

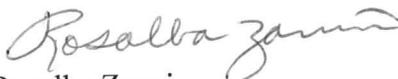
The meeting came out of Executive Session at 7:20 P.M.

On motion by Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to seal the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Council Vice-President Santamaria, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to continue the above items to the May Public Works meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees