

(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 Monday, June 1, 2015, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by the Chairman.

Present: Councilman Mario Aceto, Chair
Councilman Steven A. Stycos, Vice-Chair
Councilman Michael J Farina
Council Vice-President Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Councilman Christopher G. Paplauskas
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Also Present: Council Minority Leader Michael W. Favicchio
Robert Coupe, Director of Administration/Acting Personnel Director
Jeffrey Barone, Constituent Affairs
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 Farina, seconded by Councilman Stycos, 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:

City's Participation in Streetlight Investment Program.

Adm. report on BOCAP award and time frame for completion of assessment

Mr. Mason stated that on 5/1/2015, BOCAP agreed to approve up to \$9,700 for Prism for the Phase I assessment. The report should be available within 60-90 days and at that point, a report will be issued and if the City wishes to proceed, it will be coming to the City Council for approval to purchase the lights from National Grid.

Chairman Aceto asked if there are grants available. **Mr. Mason** said only if converting to LED. There are currently no red caps on any lights. As far as LED lights, funding would be needed and we would look to the Grant Writer.

Council President Lanni asked if there is an estimate on the cost savings the City would get from this. Mr. Mason stated that that is part of the assessment from Prism. We currently pay 1.45 million. They estimate that the cities and towns can save up to a third.

Chair asked that this item be removed from the agenda and put back on the agenda in 60 days.

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 & 2/4/2015). [[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 & 2/4/2015). [[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 & 2/4/2015). [[click to view](#)]

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that this is still in litigation and there is no update at this time.

Chair asked that the above items be continued.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ***Cleaning and Maintenance of the Bike Path*** (Chair) – Director Mason or Director Liberatore to address who is responsible, State or City.

Anthony Liberatore, Director of Parks and Recreation, appeared to speak and stated that he City is responsible for the maintenance of the bike path.

Chair asked how often the bike path is policed. Mr. Liberatore stated that on an average, two times a week, but that is not a full crew.

Mr. Liberatore stated that part of the problem with the trash along the bike path is there are bad neighbors, such as Sundaes and the Oaklawn Ave. Car Wash on Oaklawn Ave. and the biggest is Lowes, who never picks up their trash in the parking lot and that goes onto the bike path.

Chair stated that there are a lot of streams, culverts and drains along the bike path. The concern is that they are getting clogged with debris, which causes flooding in the areas. He questioned who is responsible for clearing these drains. Mr. Liberatore stated that there are two contracts. One is between the State and the City and one is between the Parkade, the City and the State. There is a \$5,000 limit on what the City has to pay for any repairs. This is for each item.

Chair asked Mr. Mason to look at the area from Cranston St. rotary heading South on the bike path as to the flow of water with the drains. Mr. Mason stated that per the contract, anything under \$5,000 repairs, the City is responsible and anything above \$5,000, the State is responsible.

Discussion of State Funding for Problem Areas in Cranston (Chair)

- **Comstock Parkway**
- **Narragansett Blvd. and Ocean Ave.**
- **Laurel Hill Ave., near Oxford St.**
- **Oaklawn Ave. near Fernbrook Dr.**
- **Cranston St.**
- **Meshanticut Valley Parkway**
- **Scituate Ave.**
- **Plainfield Pike**

Chair asked if any Committee members have any additions they would like to add to this list.

Council Vice-President Santamaria asked that Budlong Road be added.

Chair asked that Previl Dr. be added.

RIDOT – Surplus State Land offer: Plat 1361/Parcel 5: Intersection Reservoir/Budlong
[\[click to view\]](#) (Advantages of City purchasing this Property – Chair)

Robert Murray, Esq., appeared to speak.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Councilman Aceto, it was unanimously voted for the City not to acquire this property.

- ***Administration - Street Opening Fee Report and calculation (Chair)***

Mr. Coupe stated that he met with Mr. Mason today and also indicated that he has information for the City Council and he distributed a report to the Committee. He stated that the total cost, per the research, was just over \$120 to process each of the applications and overhead cost is built into this.

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

- ***Providence Water installing new hydrants and repairing property after work is completed (Chair)***

Chair asked if there is a procedure in place for this.

Mr. Mason stated that this all depends on when the hydrant is being installed.

- ***Status update from Director of Public Works regarding the implementation of the Waste Zero Program (Council Vice-President Santamaria)***

Council Vice-President Santamaria asked that this item be removed from the agenda since pamphlets were mailed out last week explaining this program.

Mr. Mason stated that the bags are now available at participating retailers.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees