

(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, February 1, 2016, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M. by the Chairman.

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

Absent: Councilman Steven A. Stycos, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Council Majority Leader Paul H. Archetto
Councilman Donald Botts, Jr.
Jeffrey Barone, Director of Constituent Affairs
Christopher Rawson, 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 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:

Marleen Marshall, Esq., appeared to represent petitioner for Abandonment of Kensington Rd.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ***Orchard Valley – Status report on stop sign. Chairman Aceto***

Mr. Mason stated that there is a two-way stop sign at Ashbrook and further up, there is a three-way stop sign. At the two way intersection, there used to be a four-way stop sign, but what is codified and installed right now is a two-way stop sign.

Councilman Aceto stated that the two-way should have been four-way.

Council Vice-President Santamaria stated that a few years ago, there were approximately 600 stop signs that were illegally installed and they were codified. City Clerk indicated that she can check with Maria Giarrusso, GIS Director, since she compiled the list of the 600 stop signs to see if those mentioned by Councilman Aceto should have been part of this list.

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

- ***Prism Streetlight Program - Status Update. Council Vice-President Santamaria*** (referred from 1/25/2016 City Council).

Mr. Mason stated that he would like the word “Prism” taken from the title of this item and it should just state “Streetlight Program”. Mr. Mason stated that Prism is one avenue that the City can take if it is decided that this is entity to go with. Prism has done the Phase 1 side of the assessment. We have not committed to use Prism, but they are definitely in the running.

Council Vice-President Santamaria asked if there is Grant money opportunity for this. Mr. Mason stated, yes, with National Grid and also another Grant opportunity with RI Energy Council. Council Vice-President Santamaria asked how much National Grid would be giving us in rebate. Mr. Mason stated, 40 cents per watt, but he does not have the exact amount. He indicated that the first step is we have to purchase the street lights from National Grid, which would cost \$168,245. The real money making would be in the power savings that we would have.

Councilman Aceto asked if the Administration is in favor of this. Mr. Barone stated that to say no would be very premature at this point.

Mr. Mason stated that if we do this, he would like to start this July 1st.

Councilman Botts asked what the pure savings in energy costs per year would be. Mr. Mason stated, approximately 2/3 pure savings and also stated that converting to LED would give you large savings.

Council President Lanni asked if this would need Council approval if the City decides to go through with this program. Solicitor Rawson stated that he is not sure, he would have to check into that.

- **Public Hearing for the Abandonment of un-named right of way between 2398 and 2406 Cranston St.** [\[click to view petition\]](#) Cont. 1/4/2016.

Solicitor Rawson stated that he spoke to the petitioners this evening and they indicated to him that they are working with Ocean State Planners to draft an Easement that would be in agreement with the neighbor. The public right of way issue for the bike path is something that will be discussed.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Public Hearing for Abandonment of Kensington Rd.** [\[click to view Resolution\]](#)
[\[click to view providence water review\]](#) [\[click to view National Grid Review\]](#)
[\[click to view City Planning Recommendation\]](#)

Councilman Aceto asked what the next step is in this process. City Clerk stated that the next step is for motion to authorize the Abandonment. She also indicated that there are several Easements that would have to be granted for Providence Water, National Grid electric and gas and for the City for the sanitary terminal manhole & piping. She also reported that the appraisal was reviewed by the Tax Assessor and it complies with the Code requirements.

Chair asked if Petitioner is in agreement with the dollar amount of the appraisal. Attorney Marshall stated, yes.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Farina, seconded by Council Vice-President Santamaria, it was voted to approve this Abandonment subject to easements requested being granted. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Council Vice-President Santamaria stated that trucks are still parking overnight at the Wal-Mart Plaza on Plainfield Pike and there are complaints of rubbish and seagulls. He stated that he is getting frustrated why this landlord is not complying. This is 10 years of frustration. He was told that Carlos Lopez, Mayor's Chief of Staff, has the property owner's phone number in Missouri. He wants this addressed. Mr. Barone stated that he will meet with Mr. Lopez tomorrow and will have an answer for Council Vice-President Santamaria by the end of the day tomorrow.

Councilman Papluskas stated that he has received complaints from the residents of the apartments behind Wal-Mart in regards to the trucks being parked overnight.

Council Vice-President Santamaria stated that Mr. Filarski, Council Grant Writer, has been sending e-mails requesting information for grant money for repairs of roads, from Mr. Lapolla, City Planner, and Mr. DiBoni, Director of Economic Development, and has not received any response and the deadline is this week. Mr. Barone stated that he will advise both Director of this.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosalba Zanni".

Rosalba Zanni

Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees