

*(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 Thursday, November 16, 2017, 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 Kenneth J. Hopkins, Chair  
Councilman Christopher G. Paplauskas, Vice-Chair  
Council Vice-President Michael W. Favicchio  
Councilman Trent M. Colford, Sr.  
Councilman Paul J. McAuley  
Councilman Paul H. Archetto  
Council President Michael J Farina

Also Present: Councilman Steven A. Stycos  
Carlos Lopez, Chief of Staff  
Ken Mason, Director of Public Works  
John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor  
Evan Kirshenbaum, City Council Legal Counsel  
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 President Farina, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Executive Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. Sec. 42-46-5(a)(2) –Potential/Pending Litigation**
  - **Walmart/Plainfield Pike violations**

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

**Councilman Paplauskas:**

- **Edgewood area and Meshanticut State Park area trash receptacles – Status Update from Administration. (Cont. from 9/14/2017).**

**Mr. Mason** stated that the City has had no luck contacting the State for installing barrels at Meshanticut Lake, although, the City has placed barrels at the bottom of the street which abuts the Park.

**Request from National Grid for pole location at Seven Mile Rd.**

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Council Vice-President Favicchio, it was voted to approve this request. Motion passed unanimously.

**Gladstone Street School Fence – Adm. report on recent damage. Councilman Archetto.**

**Councilman Archetto** asked what the monetary damage was to the fence. **Mr. Mason** stated that the damage was due to a vehicle accident and there is a Police report. The City has a quote from the fence contractor in the amount of \$1,135.71 and the City will be pursuing the insurance company for restitution.

**Discussion regarding policy of cleaning out sewer lines and drafting of a Resolution advising the public of this policy. Councilmen Stycos and Paplauskas.**

**Councilman Stycos** stated that there was discussion at the Claims Committee meeting indicating that Veolia will clean out sewer lines from the main to the cleanout valve, but the public does not know about this so they hire someone to do it. He asked that **Mr. Mason** explain what Veolia does and does not do in these cases.

**Mr. Mason** provided copies of what is posted on the City's website regarding this. He stated that according to the City's Ordinances, the property owner is responsible for all costs associated with the sewer services lateral from the building to the street. What is in Veolia's contract with the City is they provide what they call a 'clog service'.

**Councilman Stycos** stated that a suggestion was made that a notice explaining this be sent out to the taxpayers with the sewer bills. He asked if the Administration has an objection to this. **Mr. Mason** stated, no, a notice could be placed with the bills when they are sent out next year.

**Council Vice-President Favicchio** and **Councilman Paplauskas** agreed that some sort of notice be included with the tax bill.

**Councilman Stycos** recommended that a Resolution be passed asking the Administration to do this with next year's bills.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

CITY OF CRANSTON

Ex. # 1 Sub: Public Works

Comm 11-16-17

By: Kenneth Mason

Re: Sewer lines cleanup

The Collection System Department of Veolia Water handles sewer emergencies 24 hours a day. Sewer connections, although fully owned by the property owner from the building to the sewer main in the street, are inspected and cleaned by Veolia Water from the property line to the street. The property owner is responsible for ownership and maintenance of the portion from the cleanout at the property line to the house. During regular working hours (Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM) you may contact Veolia Water at 467-7210 ext. 101. Evening, weekend, and holiday calls may be made to 942-2121 for recorded instructions. Please be advised the cleanout at the property line (which is owned by the property owner) must be accessible and operable for Veolia Water to access and maintain the city side of the service lateral. If the problem is determined to be a blockage in the service lateral from the cleanout back into the property structure, it is the responsibility of the property owner to retain the services of an independent contractor to clear or repair the blockage.