

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, December 4, 2008 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Council Member Maria A. Bucci, Chair
Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr., Vice-Chair
Councilman John E. Lanni
Councilman Emilio L. Navarro
Councilman Jeffrey P. Barone
Council President Aram G. Garabedian

Also Present: Councilman Anthony J. Lupino
Charles Garganese, Assistant City Solicitor
Anthony Sylvia, 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 Barone, seconded by Councilman Lanni, 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:

OLD BUSINESS:

Traffic Engineer's Report on Proposed Traffic Study for Edgewood (Referred from 11/13/2008 Finance Committee)

Mr. Sylvia appeared to speak and stated that the City has advertised for bids and will be receiving bids December 16, 2008.

Councilman Navarro asked how many bids have been picked up. **Mr. Sylvia** stated that he does not have this information.

Councilman Santamaria asked if this study will be for the whole City or just the Edgewood area. **Mr. Sylvia** stated that this is just for the Edgewood area. This is a stand alone project that preceded the City-wide program. The Edgewood project came first, this is why it is being done first with the City-wide to follow.

Councilman Lanni questioned if it would be cheaper to do a City-wide project including this area instead of doing two separate studies. Mr. Sylvia stated that he is not sure it would be cheaper. The City-wide project will be following this. Councilman Lanni stated that there should be some kind of savings. He would like to see a cost analysis to see if it would be cheaper to do just one project. **Councilman Navarro** stated that he would hate to see anything delayed since there is an RFP established and the scope of the work has been done. He understands Councilman Lanni's concern, but he would hate to see anything delayed. Mr. Sylvia stated that he can report for the next meeting of who has been awarded the Edgewood project and the fiscal analysis of the City-wide project.

This item is continued to next month's meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Walnut Grove Ave.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to approve this petition. Motion passed unanimously.

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Wheatland Ave.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to approve this petition. Motion passed unanimously.

Kelly & Picerne, Inc. land donation of property off of Loretta St.

Council President Garabedian recused.

JGP Builders, Inc. land donation of property abutting Route 295 South in the area of Rainbow Rd.

Robert Murray, Esq., appeared to represent the above individuals and introduced Nicholas Reuter, Director of Operations from Kelly & Picerne. They have been in discussions with Mr. Lapolla and Mr. Sylvia for several months. Mr. Sylvia had asked that Phase I Environmental Impact Study be done and these have been provided. He presented a packet to the Committee. Detailed reports prepared on all the parcels. He stated that Kelly & Picerne has 33 lots totaling 18.81 acres and JGP Builders has one lot totaling approximately 9.6 acres, which they would like to donate to the City.

Councilwoman Bucci inquired about the total taxes paid on these properties. Mr. Murray stated \$3,101.907 and \$972.55.

Councilman Barone asked why someone would want to donate land because of tax break.. Attorney Murray stated that the land is not buildable land and they do not have any use for it and they feel it would be more useful in the City trust and the land does not need any maintenance.

Councilman Navarro asked if any of the lots required maintenance.

Nicholas Reuter, representing Kelly & Picerne, appeared to speak and stated that the only funds spent is in trying to do a title to see if there was any value. There has been no need for upkeep of this land. There have been no complaints of the condition of any of this land or any violations.

Mr. Sylvia stated that in reviewing the Environmental Study, he sees no concerns environmentally in the City taking over this land. He has reviewed both reports. Both properties have beneficial aspects as to mitigation of flooding. One expanding river's ability to retain water the property is behind Amanda Court might come in handy to help with flooding. He sees no problems with these properties.

Councilman Lupino asked if the City has contacted the property owners of the lots between Picerne's property to see if they were interested in obtaining this land. Mr. Sylvia stated, no.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Barone, it was voted to approve the acceptance of land from the above two individuals. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Murray stated that he will work with the City Clerk and the Solicitor in drafting Resolutions for the December 15, 2008 Council meeting for the City to accept this land.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees