

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, December 6, 2007 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by the Chair.

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

Absent: Councilman Emilio L. Navarro

Also Present: Councilman Terence Livingston
Councilman Anthony J. Lupino
Aubrey Lombardo, Assistant City Solicitor
Charles Garganese, Jr., Assistant City Solicitor
Corsino Delgado, Finance Director
Anthony Sylvia, Public Works Director
Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Heather Finger, Stenographer

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

Status of draft of ordinance requiring a bond from Utilities. Chair Bucci (Cont. 7/12/2007, 9/10/2007, 10/11/2007, 11/15/2007).

Mr. Sylvia appeared to speak and asked that this item be tabled, since he has not been able to complete his research regarding this item.

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

Providence Water – Discussion on repair of City roads (Report from Director of Public Works). (Cont. 11/15/2007).

Ron DelGallo, Acting Director of Distribution for Providence Water, appeared to speak and stated that as to who is responsible for repairs to streets, under RI General Laws, the cities and towns are responsible for permanent restoration of streets. He has met with the cities and towns who have new Administrations to review the law.

Ms. Lombardo stated that in her research, she has noticed that there are two conflicting laws. When there are two conflicting laws, you have to find a way to interpret or find a compromise where both laws would be in effect.

Council President Garabedian asked if Mr. DelGallo is aware that there are two conflicting laws. Mr. DelGallo stated, no, he is not. Council President Garabedian suggested that Mr. DelGallo advise his legal counsel and if Providence Water's legal counsel would like to meet with the Council, they would be happy to meet with them.

Councilman Lanni stated that what bothers him is that all the other utilities do the repairs and Providence Water refuses to. He thinks the law has to change to make Providence Water a little more responsible.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Council President Garabedian it was voted to continue this item. Motion passed unanimously.

Status update on the installation of traffic lights at Scituate Ave. and Pippin Orchard Rd. and Phenix Ave. and Furnace Hill Rd. (Cont. 10/11/2007, 11/15/2007).

Councilman Lanni stated that everything seems to be on target and the project should be completed by early or late Spring.

Pippin Orchard Rd. – Providence Water tie-in (Cont.10/11/2007, 11/15/1007 – Update by Director of Public Works).

Mr. Sylvia stated that he is working with the Planning Staff and the City's GIS employee for revisions to the Impact Fees associated with the tie-ins.

Council President Garabedian asked how long this would take to have an Ordinance drafted and passed. **Mr. Sylvia** stated, within a month or two.

Councilman Lupino introduced Mr. & Mrs. Taylor, who live west of Pippin Orchard Rd. and they are a hardship case. He stated that the Taylors are looking to tie in for their home only and not their nursery. They wrote a check to the City in the amount of \$4,500 for the Impact Fee, but Providence Water has a problem allowing the tie in. Councilman Lupino indicated that there are other hardship cases that were passed by Providence Water. Mr. Sylvia has been working with Providence Water on this.

Philip Taylor, 1199 Pippin Orchard Rd., appeared to speak and stated that they have been dealing with a well that does not produce enough water. The well was tested and they were told that the well was old. Since there is water available on Pippin Orchard Rd and runs in front of their house, they would rather be tied in rather than spend money for a new well. There are people on the same street that are tied in. The \$4,500 check was returned to them.

Mr. Sylvia stated that we are just waiting for the amendment to the current Ordinance and amendment to the Impact Fees. Providence Water will not do any tie-in until these two things are done.

Councilman Lanni suggested that a letter be sent to Providence Water from the Committee asking for this hardship case to be considered.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to have a letter sent to Providence Water stressing the hardship of this resident and if any members of this Committee would like to sign the letter, they can.

Under Discussion:

Council President Garabedian asked that the Public Works Director work on defining hardship for the future if there are any other hardship cases that may follow.

Roll call was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Sewer Adjustments (Cont. 11/15/2007 for Public Works Director's recommendation)

- **15 Standish Ave.**
- **1500 Pontiac Ave.**

Mr. Sylvia asked that these two items be tabled since he has not been able to research this.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to table the above two items. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

Request from National Grid for pole location at Hope Rd.

Request from National Grid for pole location at Rossi Lane.

Request from National Grid for pole location at Phenix Ave.

Request from National Grid for pole location at Third Ave.

Request from National Grid for pole location at Everly St.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to approve all the above-listed requests. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Anthony Liberatore, Director of Parks and Recreation, appeared to speak and stated that there is a possibility of bringing in an outside company, at no cost to the City, to put in an indoor soccer field, lacrosse field and Ice Rink. The company would be looking for three acres of land. It would be privately financed and the property is on Plat 24, Lot 6. There is a total of 70 acres on this plat and lot, but the company would be looking to lease from the City, on a yearly basis, three acres. This property is behind Briggs Farm. This would be something to look at for the future.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees