

(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, December 9, 2010 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

Present: Councilman Mario Aceto, Chair
Councilman Anthony J. Lupino, Vice-Chair
Councilman Robert J. Pelletier
Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Absent: Councilwoman Michelle Bergin

Also Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto
Councilman Emilio L. Navarro
Council Vice-President Terence Livingston
Robin Muksian-Schutt, Director of Administration
Gerald Cordy, Deputy Director of Administration
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
Robert Strom, Director of Finance
Mike Igoe, City Controller
Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor
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 Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, 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:

Councilman Lupino stated that there was a hearing at the State House yesterday on the Wayland, Phenix and Scituate Ave Resolution for a traffic signal, but could not attend the meeting. He asked if the Administration was present. Ms. Schutt stated that she did attend the meeting and vote was taken by the Traffic Commission to do an updated study. There was very strong support from the Commission and they are very much in favor of the project.

Councilman Pelletier stated that he has received phone calls regarding neighborhood plat signs, such as Oaklawn Terrace, questioning who is responsible for those signs. Ms. Schutt stated that it depends on who put them up, those are not City signs, it could be the various neighborhood organizations.

Ms. Schutt stated that she was reminded by Councilman Lupino in regards to contact numbers for during snowstorms. She will send out an e-mail with a memo and list of contact numbers.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Update Regarding RI Resource Recovery

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that is continuing to work with his team regarding the issue of RI Resource Recovery and he also introduced Sean Coffey, Esq., Special Counsel on this issue.

Attorney Coffey stated that he and the attorney for RI Resource Recovery are exchanging documents regarding outstanding issues.

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that on Monday, he received a letter from William Conley, who is representing the Town of Johnston, stating that Johnston Administration is not aware of any other connections other then RI Resource Recovery or Florida Power and Light. The City of Cranston sent a letter right away outlining the facilities that we knew that were connected illegally.

Chair asked if we have the legal right to shut RI Resource Recovery as of December 10th. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he thinks we do. We gave them a deadline and we have identified the illegal connections.

Councilman Santamaria questioned why not shut them down tomorrow, then we will have the exact number of people who are connected illegally because they will be calling in to complain.

Councilman Lupino questioned why not withdraw any agreements in effect and send them new agreement that is retroactive to last year when we sent them the agreement for them to sign, which they did not sign.

Councilman Pelletier asked when the first letter was sent to their legal counsel. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated, in April. He indicated that the letter had language stating that failure to adopt inter-jurisdictional agreement immediately by December 10th was subject to shut off. Councilman Pelletier stated that they waiting until four days prior to the deadline to respond. He agrees to shut them down.

Chair handed gavel to Vice-Chair.

Councilman Aceto motioned that people that we know of who are illegally tied into our system and should get a letter and people in the Industrial Park should get a letter stating that by December 24th, if there is no agreement, they will be shut down on December 24th. Council Vice-President Livingston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees