

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, February 14, 2008 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Chair.

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

Absent: Council Member Maria A. Bucci, Chair

Also Present: Councilman Anthony J. Lupino
Councilman Terence Livingston
Ernest Carlucci, Director of Administration
Aubrey Lombardo, 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 Lanni, seconded by Councilman Barone, 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:

Letter from Providence Water regarding services tie in – 1199 Pippin Orchard Rd.

Clerk read letter into the record.

Vice-Chair asked Public Works Director to explain what steps are needed to comply with this request. Mr. Sylvia stated that Providence Water is interested in expanding the system and However, the current Ordinance needs to be amended to expand the service area and new impact fees need to be calculated. There are approximately 25 lots involved; and the cost for tie in is approximately \$3500. Providence Water will not allow any tie ins until we have amended the Ordinance.. The Planning Director is working on the amendments to this Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Status of draft of Ordinance requiring a bond from Utilities. (Cont. 7/12/2007, 9/10/2007, 10/11/2007, 11/15/2007, 12/6/2007 & 1/17/2008).

Mr. Sylvia stated that he is working with the City's GIS Manager and is making progress. He asked for a continuance at this time.

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

Providence Water – Discussion on repair of City roads. (Cont. 11/15/2007, 12/6/2007 and no action on 1/17/2008).

Mr. Carlucci stated that he and the Director of Public Works are trying to meet with the head of Providence Water and we are trying to set this meeting up now. The Committee will be kept updated and informed as soon as this meeting takes place.

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

Status of Ordinance draft for revised impact fees. (Cont. 1/17/2008).

Chair stated that this item was discussed under “Correspondence”.

Councilman Barone asked if the Ordinance that is being drafted is just for the Western Cranston water system. Mr. Sylvia stated that it was. Councilman Barone asked that the agenda reflect that.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Council President Garabedian asked Mr. Sylvia to address the flooding of Natick Avenue Bridge, which occurred yesterday. Mr. Sylvia stated that the bridge had been closed since September 2004. The City was led to believe that it was unsafe for traffic. Recently, the City was made aware that certain repairs could be made that would make the bridge travelable by cars. This was done last week. Another point of Natick Avenue flooded yesterday with four feet of water. The bridge was planned to be reopened tomorrow, but due to yesterday's rains, it was reopened last night to allow resident access to their homes. The road is fully accessible now. Fordson Ave. and Fletcher Ave. were also flooded with four feet of water.

Councilman Barone stated that one of his constituents, Joe Renzi, called him last night and advised him that he cleared blocked drains himself on Mayfield Ave.

Mr. Carlucci stated that Alan Moio used his own equipment and employees to move the jersey barriers at the Natick Ave. bridge.

Councilman Barone stated that these types of constituents should be honored to make other people aware of the good deeds that certain residents do. Council President Garabedian asked that Citations should be given to these two individuals and any other individuals the Council members are aware of.

Philip Taylor, 1199 Pippin Orchard Rd., appeared to speak and stated that at a previous meeting he attended, Providence Water representative stated that they were looking for a commitment from the City in order for him to be tied into Providence Water. He asked what the commitment is that Providence Water is looking for and is the City going to give them that commitment. Solicitor Lombardo stated that the Planning Director is working on an Ordinance amending the Impact Fees at this time and the Public Works Director is working on negotiations and once that Ordinance is in place, the City will move forward for the tie in.

Mr. Carlucci stated that Providence Water will not allow one single tie in. This is why the whole area is being looked at to be tied in.

Councilman Lupino stated that he will not accept it if the Ordinance is not ready for introduction at the February Council meeting, because the Planning Director has been aware of this for over one year.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees