

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, March 13, 2008 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 Emilio L. Navarro  
Councilman Jeffrey P. Barone

Also Present: Aubrey Lombardo, Assistant City Solicitor  
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Meredith Mahoney, Stenographer

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Navarro, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair indicated that the Public Works Director will not be attending the meeting this evening.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **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 & 2/14/2008).

**Ms. Lombardo** stated that the Public Works Director is working on this Ordinance and since he is not present this evening, she suggested that this item be tabled.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, 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; Cont. 2/14/2008).

**Ms. Lombardo** stated that the status regarding this item is the same since the last meeting. the Administration is still meeting with Providence Water in negotiations.

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

**Status of Ordinance draft for revised Western Cranston Water Impact Fees.** (Cont. 1/17/2008, 2/14/2008).

**Ms. Lombardo** stated that she was advised that this Ordinance has been drafted and is completed and is with the Administration.

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

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Tie In to the Power Plant**

**Chair** stated that since the Public Works Director is not present, this item will be continued.

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

## **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

### *Natick Ave. Bridge*

**Chair** stated that Jessica Marino is present and asked to address the Committee regarding the repairs to the Natick Ave. Bridge. She asked that Ms. Marino update the Committee regarding the meeting held with the Mayor the day before yesterday regarding this issue and how the meeting went.

**Jessica Marino**, 799 Natick Ave., appeared to speak and stated that the Mayor and the Public Works Director would be the proper people to speak regarding this, but from the perspective of the residents who were present at that meeting, including herself, they were not pleased with the way the meeting ended and the way it was held. She indicated that Mr. Sylvia, Public Works Director, stated at that meeting that it would take approximately two months to conduct a study and a design plan. As of this time, we have yet to hear from the Mayor's Office of when this meeting will be. The residents were hoping that this item would be before this Committee and she is troubled that the Chair refused to place this item on this meeting's agenda because this was being discussed through the Mayor's Office.

**Chair** stated that the residents expect resolution immediately. The Council meeting was only held two weeks ago when this issue was brought up and a lot has gone on during the past two weeks. Until she has new information to give the residents, it would not make sense to have this item on this agenda. We have made a lot of progress and hope the residents will have patience while this issue is being addressed. She has discussed with Mr. Carlucci, Director of Administration, and agreed to pass a Resolution to have the road worked on by an engineer and then after that a bond referendum will be worked on. This has been a problem for thirty years and she feels a lot has been done in two weeks time.

**Ms. Marino** stated that the residents were told that there was a study or design plans done in the past and there were documents regarding this study and the residents are told that is not the case and previous Public Works Director never looked at this issue. This is very disappointing to the residents.

**Councilman Lanni** stated that he has served on the Council for eight years and to the best of his knowledge, there was never a study done.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees