

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, May 14, 2009 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

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-Andrews

Also Present: Mayor Allan W. Fung
Robin Muksian-Schutt, Director of Administration
Gerald Cordy, Deputy Director of Administration
Michael Glucksman, Assistant City Solicitor
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 approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

List of out of City tie-ins to the City's sewer system, amounts being billed. (Solicitor to report back on issues brought up at the last meeting)

Report provided by Acting Public Works Director, Nick Capezza.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, it was voted to continue this item.

Under Discussion:

Assistant Solicitor Glucksman suggested holding an Executive Session for the next meeting at 6:00 P.M. to discuss outside sewer connections and potential litigation. Chair indicated to the City Clerk that the other Committee meetings be moved up an hour.

Roll call was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Report from Administration on use of Stimulus monies - Fletcher Avenue and other projects

Mr. Cordy stated that Fletcher Ave. project has fallen from the list of potential stimulus money to appropriations money. Since the stimulus money has been further defined, there is nothing there that is going to help us with the Fletcher Ave. and Pawtuxet River projects. This came from Senator Reed's Office.

Councilman Santamaria stated that he was under the impression that Senator Reed's Office was in agreement with this money that it could be used for these projects.

Council President Lanni stated that at the meeting held with Senator Reed and the Town of Johnston, everyone was advised that there would be stimulus money to fix this problem once and for all. He is very disappointed that they have changed their mind on this. He asked Mr. Cordy if the City received an explanation of why this money is not available. Mr. Cordy stated that he will find out.

Council President Lanni stated that this Council should send a Resolution to Senator Reed and Senator Whitehouse expressing the Council's disappointment.

Councilman Lupino asked if there are any other avenues for money to relocate some of the businesses in that area or some of the residents that habitually get flooded. Mr. Cordy stated that this project will continue to be funded through appropriations money.

Councilman Pelletier asked if the Planning Director could research to see if this area might have qualified as a floodplain and if that is the case, it could qualify for FEMA zone and we then could get FEMA money.

This is item continued to next month.

Recycling Fines - requested by Council President Lanni

Ms. Schutt stated that tickets are on the Solicitor's desk for final approval before being sent out to be printed. The City will be sending out postcard mailing City-wide informing the residents of this program. The Administration is looking at July 1st as the implementation date for "no bin no pickup" program.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

5-09-13S Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 13.08 of Title 13 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Public Services-Sewer Service System".

Chair stated that this Ordinance was just received by the Committee this evening and questioned what this Ordinance does. Assistant Solicitor Glucksman stated that he would have to check with Assistant Solicitor Kirshenbaum.

On motion by Councilman Pelletier, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to table this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Sewer Connection request: Pro-Tec (Chris Bodyne), Johnston, RI

On motion by Councilman Lupino, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to table this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Avery Rd.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, it was voted to approve this pole location. Motion passed unanimously.

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Wilbur Ave.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, it was voted to approve this pole location. Motion passed unanimously.

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Kneeland St.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, it was voted to approve this pole location. Motion passed unanimously.

Petition from National Grid for pole location at Bank St.

On motion by Councilman Santamaria, seconded by Councilman Pelletier, it was voted to approve this pole location. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees