

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Monday, September 10, 2007 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Vice-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 (appeared at 6:10 p.m.)

Absent: Council Member Maria A. Bucci, Chair

Also Present: Councilman Anthony J. Lupino  
Aubrey Lombardo, Assistant City Solicitor  
Anthony Sylvia, Director of Public Works  
Ernie DPari, Highway Superintendent  
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Heather Finger, Stenographer

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Lanni, 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:**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Status of draft of ordinance requiring a bond from Utilities. Chair Bucci (Cont. 7/12/2007)**

**Mr. Sylvia** stated that he met with Providence Water last week and he discussed their standard procedures in them repairing roads when they do work on our City roads. It was discussed and they agreed that they are responsible for making temporary repairs on trenches that they work on in the City and permanent repairs on City sidewalks and they are responsible for making temporary repairs on State roads or highways. What is unclear at this time, is whether they are responsible for permanent repairs to our City roads. They are telling us that they are not responsible.

**Councilman Lanni** stated that it is outrageous that they are willing to repair State roads and not our City roads and they are sticking our taxpayers with unfair burden to pay for us to repair our roads.

**Councilman Barone** asked Mr. Sylvia to find out what the City of Providence requires because he is sure that Providence would not allow Providence Water not to repair their roads.

**Mr. Sylvia** stated that Providence Water is stating that there is a Public Law that does not require them to make repairs to City roads. He is reviewing that law as it relates to the City of Cranston.

**Ms. Lombardo** stated that there is a State Law which is in conflict with the Public Law.

**Councilman Lanni** asked what needs to be done to enforce Providence Water to repair our roads. Ms. Lombardo stated that the Public Law would need to be changed. Councilman Lanni stated that every city and town should ask that this Public Law be changed to protect the taxpayers in the individual city or town.

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

**Petition from National Grid - 4 Exchange St. and 5 Vinton Ave.**

**Feb 15, 2007 Replacement of Steel Gas Main lines:**

(Cont. 4/12/2007, 5/21/2007 and Cont. 6/14/2007 at request of utility company and tabled 8/16/2007 no one appeared)

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Navarro, it was voted to remove these two items from the table. Motion passed unanimously.

**Dennis Hustis**, Supervisor for National Grid and **Jeff Montigney**, Engineer for National Grid, appeared to speak. Mr. Hustis stated that he is not aware why they were asked to attend this meeting. Councilman Lanni stated that National Grid was asked to appear for the same reason previously discussed with Providence Water.

**Mr. Montigney** stated that National Grid makes permanent repairs of anything that they do in the street, at their expense. Councilman Lanni asked Mr. DePari to confirm this. Mr. DePari stated that the City is asking for one whole asphalt repair and not patches. Mr. Montigney stated that he is not prepared to agree to that. National Grid has past practices in place that were agreed on with the City and this would have to be agreed upon by his Supervisor. He suggests that the Director of Public Works meet with Mr. Amaral, his Supervisor, to work on this. Councilman Lupino asked if this agreement is in writing and did it have limitations. Mr. Montigney stated that he does not know if there is a signed document. He indicated that National Grid meets with the Director of Public Works to see if there work meets the City's approval.

**Councilman Lupino** asked that the Director of Public Works check to see if there is such an agreement in writing and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Councilman Navarro, it was voted to approve the above permits. Motion passed unanimously.

**Status of Ordinance draft from Parks and Recreation regarding Briggs Farm Complex Rules and Regulations** (Cont. 8/16/200.7 for update from Solicitor).

**Ms. Lombardo** indicated that at the last meeting, she stated to the Committee that an Ordinance is not necessary. She discussed this with the Clerk and it was agreed that this item was listed on the agenda in error.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Councilman Barone, it was voted to remove this item from the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

**Councilman Lupino** stated that he would like the Committee to entertain adding an item on the agenda for the next meeting. He has been contacted by some constituents on Pippin Orchard Rd. regarding Providence Water and their inability to tie into their line. Some of the people who contacted him are in an emergency situation. There was past practice that Providence Water allowed for emergency tie-in and they no longer do it. He asked that this item be added to next month's agenda for discussion and update.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Councilman Navarro, it was voted to add this item to next month's agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees