

Public Works Committee
2:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 7, 2010

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 7, 2010 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Thomas, City Administrator Tucker, Public Works Director Pitts, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. Councilmember Stone's absence was excused.

1. Chair Duffy called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2010 as submitted; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments - None**

4. **Departmental Reports for June 2010 – Director Pitts**

Director Pitts stated that the focus for June had been increased debris sweeps on the beach due to the increased number of visitors to the island. For the Disaster Preparedness Expo, the Public Works Department assisted the Police Department with cleaning. The Director reported that both garbage and yard debris volumes were lower than the five (5) year averages. Based on preliminary figures, vehicle maintenance will end the year under budget.

5. **Old Business**

A. Status of Various Drainage Projects

Administrator Tucker reported that the work presently being done is engineering and design work by Civil Site Environmental (CSE).

Chair Duffy inquired about a tentative date when the bid documents would be available; the Administrator noted that Mr. Stevens had presented a timeline earlier, and she was of the opinion that CSE was keeping to it because he was working on the bid document before receiving the approval for the most recent amendment to his contract.

B. Results of Drainage Maintenance Bid

Two (2) bids were received for this work - one each from Eadie's Construction Company, Inc. of Ridgeville and L-J, Inc. of Columbia. The bids were dramatically different; the Eadie's bid was for four hundred thirty-eight thousand two hundred dollars (\$438,200) over five (5) years, and the L-J bid was for three million six hundred thousand dollars (\$3,600,000) over three (3) years. Director Pitts explained that the primary difference in the work product of the two (2) companies was that L-J proposed cleaning all of the collection boxes and closed pipes each year where Eadie's would clean the collection boxes and closed pipes over the five (5) years of the contract.

Administrator Tucker commented that Eadie's was familiar with the City's system and the City's expectations for the work that may have been an advantage for them.

Chair Duffy asked how many companies had picked up bid packages; Assistant Dziuban responded that the bid package was available from the City's website, therefore, she could not determine number of companies that may have downloaded it. She was aware of several inquiries and two (2) site visits; she expressed disappointment with the low number of bidders.

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to recommend the award of the drainage maintenance contract to Eadie's Construction in the amount of \$438,200 for five years; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. New Business

A. Discussion of Street Sweeping Request for Bids

Assistant Dziuban explained that the street sweeping request for bids would come before the Committee in the next couple of months. Assistant Dziuban noted that staff had developed a new tool, at the request of the City Administrator, to manage the City's contracts in a more proactive manner. The current street sweeping contract will expire at the end of the year; Assistant Dziuban stated that she and Director Pitts anticipate advertising the bid by the end of July and having a recommendation for the Committee in August or September.

Administrator Tucker commented that the streets are swept in the middle of the night either monthly or every other month; the areas swept are the Connector and Breach Inlet bridges, Front Beach, the 41st Avenue curve and the area of 14th Avenue and Palm. The collected material is disposed of off-island.

A new component to be included in this bid is pricing for additional sweeps that might be requested during the year.

B. Consideration of Award of Contracts in Excess of \$10,000 – None

7. Miscellaneous Business

Beach Monitoring Results for June

According to the July 2, 2010 notification from DHEC, the water samplings in the month of June were within satisfactory limits.

Administrator Tucker reported that the new garbage packer truck was ready for pickup, but the processing of the lease/purchase paperwork would take more than a month. The Administrator and Director were seeking authorization from the Committee for the City to pay for the truck so that it can be put into service and to reimburse itself with the proceeds from the lease/purchase.

A brief discussion ensued about purchasing the vehicle versus leasing that concluded when the Administrator stated that staff needed to be directed to begin setting aside funds for future large vehicle purchases if that was the direction Council wanted to follow in the future.

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to pay for and to take possession of the packer truck now and to reimburse the City from the proceeds of the lease/purchase; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Administrator Tucker reported the undergrounding of power lines between 700 and 900 Ocean Boulevard will proceed as SCE&G had wanted. SCE&G did get most of the easements they needed and was able to maneuver around the properties that would not grant the easements.

The Administrator mentioned that on Friday, July 9, at the Real Property Committee meeting, SCE&G would present a request for an easement to a couple of areas, in the City Hall and Building Department parking areas, and under ground along the front of the property on Palm Boulevard to install boxes to strengthen their distribution system to the north end of the island. Their proposal represents a compromise because SCE&G originally wanted an easement across the City's properties behind the Public Works Department, then to go under the Connector and behind the Red and White. Because a great deal of infrastructure is already in place along Palm Boulevard, the City was able to persuade them to use that route rather than compromise the undisturbed properties behind Public Works.

Chair Duffy indicated that the pooper-scoopers at 51st and 52nd Avenues had been smashed; Director Pitts responded that these belonged to Wild Dunes and that he would contact Dave Kynoski about replacing them.

Councilmember Thomas reported that the pooper-scooper box at 42nd Avenue was empty, and the Director said he would have it serviced the next day.

Administrator Tucker took the opportunity to praise Director Pitts for the outstanding job he had done over the July 4th weekend to control the volume of garbage that was generated; she described the volunteer effort as "miraculous."

Councilmember Thomas noted that he had received an email from Donna Nicholson regarding the presence of holes on the beach and her concerns for people who walk the beach at night and the turtles that come onshore to nest. The Administrator informed Councilmember Thomas that she was aware of the problem and had instructed Director Pitts to contact Bill Schupp of Schupp Enterprises to be more aggressive in filling the holes.

Next Meeting Date: 4 p.m., Wednesday, August 4, 2010.

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Chair Duffy moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m.; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.