



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
3:30pm, Wednesday, April 6, 2022
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC
and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Bogosian, Hahn, and Ward

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr, Director Pitts, Asst. Director Asero

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – March 2, 2022

Council Member Hahn made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2022 meeting, and Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Citizens' Comments -- none

4. Department Reports – Director Pitts and Assistant Director Asero

Director Pitts said garbage collection and miscellaneous debris collection were up again in March, indicating there are a lot of people on the island. Yard debris collection has been maintained throughout the month and is on a weekly pickup schedule.

Asst. Director Asero gave the highlights of Public Works activities in March including Eadie's working at 4th & Palm, Forest Trail, and 41st Avenue. He has created a list of projects for the drainage contingency fund as well as a list of outfalls needing tide valves installed. He reported on a meeting with SCDOT and Thomas & Hutton about drainage at 25th Avenue.

Facilities projects included the installation of LED lighting at City Hall, office painting at City Hall, and the removal and installation of a flagpole, signs, and lighting at the new public dock.

Work at the front beach included litter cleanup at the municipal parking lot and along Ocean Boulevard, cleaning of graffiti and power washing the interior of the public restrooms, as well as scheduling a plumber for bathroom repairs ahead of the season.

The final walkthrough for the Fuel Hut was conducted and SCDOT was scheduled to remove the graffiti under the Breach Inlet bridge.

Asst. Director Asero was asked about the rodent problem at the compactor. He said he would contact an exterminator, but he would need to see plans for any proposed changes before giving an opinion about what would solve the problem.

5. **Old Business**

A. **Update on Phase III Drainage Project [Strategic Plan Priority 5, Goal c]**

Administrator Fragoso said the project is proceeding as scheduled. They are working with Thomas & Hutton to schedule a kickoff meeting with the contractors. Work on the road crossing the golf course is scheduled for the first week in May. Dominion Energy has begun working on the relocation of a power pole.

The City held a kickoff meeting with the State's Office of Resiliency about the project at 41st Avenue as they are the funding source for the project. Not all permits for this project have been secured yet. The City is confident that all permits will be in hand to start the project next fall.

She reminded the Committee that the budget includes a provision to pipe over the outfall at 41st Avenue to create more parking for the Marina. Staff is considering making a request to amend the grant to include that cost.

B. **Update and considerations of proposals for the installation of improvements to golf cart path along Ocean Park Plaza and intersection improvements at Ocean Boulevard and JC Long Boulevard [Strategic Plan Priority 1, Goal b]**

Administrator Fragoso said they have hired Stantec to engineer both projects. The encroachment permits have been secured from SCDOT. As part of these improvements encroach onto the private property of the Beach Company, Director Kerr has initiated conversations with them to get their approval. It is hoped they will respond quickly so work can begin on the project which should only take a few days to complete.

The lowest bid received for this project is \$5,500, which Administrator Fragoso can approve.

The idea to improve the intersection at Ocean and JC Long boulevards has been well received by the businesses in that area as it will allow for better traffic flow when delivery trucks are unloading. Staff is requesting the approval of a proposal for \$22,000, funding it with monies earmarked for sidewalk improvements on Ocean Boulevard. A second proposal for \$28,000 was also received.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to recommend to the Ways & Means Committee approval of the \$22,000 expenditure to improve the intersection of Ocean and JC Long Boulevards. Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. **Discussion of request from The Dinghy to relocate existing compactor located at the Small Municipal Parking Lot**

Administrator Fragoso said that Mr. Bret Jones sent a rough drawing of an idea he has about the compactor. She would like time for staff to review the drawing and have it drawn to scale before discussing it further. She will have Asst. Director Asero engage an exterminator to help deal with the rodents in the area.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion requesting the Ways & Means Committee consider a \$100,000 placeholder be put in the FY23 budget for the potential relocation of the existing compactor in the small municipal parking lot. Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bogosian said he would like to suggestions and input from Director Pitts and Asst. Director Asero about this issue at the next meeting.

6. New Business

A. Presentation of status update on Phase 4 Drainage Comprehensive Master Plan by Davis & Floyd

Administrator Fragoso said this presentation will happen at the May Public Works meeting.

B. Discussion of existing requirements related to new development and submittal of a stormwater management plan.

Director Kerr reviewed “the current state of affairs as it relates to lot filling and development.” He said that new construction must “engage a surveyor to identify what the existing topography is. They then have to hire a stormwater professional and is a licensing requirement that is established by the State of South Carolina as either a landscape architect or a civil engineer...They have to develop a plan that show exactly the current state of elevation and then what they are proposing in terms of new elevation.” The maximum that can be brought up is one foot above the road.

He added, “There is a certification statement that goes on there that says I hereby certify that if the work is done in accordance with these plans, this project will not adversely impact the neighbors, the adjacent roadways or drainage systems.” That is done at the permitting phase of a project. Documentation must show what the actual elevations are and that has to match what was approved. A Certificate of Occupancy is given when those requirements are satisfied.

He noted that the Isle of Palms is the most stringent in the area when it comes to adding fill to a property. Up until recently, these drainage issues were a civil matter. Davis & Floyd will include in the Master Drainage Plan their recommendations for any changes that may need to be made to the City Code.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to suspend the rules of order to allow Mr. Wallace Bonds to speak to this matter. Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bonds gave the homeowner’s perspective the issue, saying that the current code often leads to a lot of litigation between neighbors. He believes the matter worthy of the Committee’s attention as there will always be new homes being built next to older homes.

C. Discussion of recommendation by the Environmental Advisory Committee for consideration of a resolution to support climate change action

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to recommend this resolution to City Council for passage. There being no second, the motion failed.

Council Member Bogosian said he would like to take the resolution back to the Environmental Advisory Committee for further edits before sending it to City Council.

D. Discussion and consideration of pavement repairs at Palm Boulevard and 45th Avenue

Administrator Fragoso explained, “So this area on Palm Boulevard that has degraded, it’s the same area where the pipes that are taking the water that is collected as part of Phase 2 drainage along 46th to 52nd avenues, where the pipe crosses over the road to go to the outfall, which is within Wild Dunes, we’ve seen some settling.”

The lowest quote to add some pavement to the area to eliminate the dip caused by the settling is \$12,000. Administrator Fragoso suggests using monies from the Drainage Contingency Fund to pay for it.

MOTION: Council Member Hahn made a motion to recommend to the Ways & Means Committee the use Drainage Contingency Funds to pay for this project. Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Discussion and consideration of drainage improvements at the end of 25th Avenue

Administrator Fragoso said this has been an area of concern for the City for several years. They have worked with SCDOT in the creation of a joint project of which the City has been asked to pay for the cost of the three flapper valves at a cost of \$76,000. Staff is recommending approval of this expense from the Drainage Contingency Funds.

Director Kerr explained, “This project would include SCDOT installing three 36-inch pipes, so very large pipes, and then building a berm, an earthen wall, over the top of it so that the road is way down in elevation.”

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve, and Council Member Ward seconded the motion.

Administrator Fragoso said the \$76,000 cost came straight from the manufacturer, so this would be a sole source purchase, for which she will write the memo justifying the sole source.

Director Kerr noted that SCDOT only recently came around to understanding their portion of this project and he estimates their project costs to be approximately \$250,000.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Miscellaneous Business**

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 3:30pm.

8. **Adjournment**

Council Member Hahn made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk