

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar
June 7, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM.

Members Present: Ms. Hale, Ms. Triem, Christine Woll, and Ms. Hughes-Skandijs arrived at 12:11 pm. Assembly Member Loren Jones was also in attendance.

Staff Members Present: Katie Koester, Denise Koch, John Bohan, City Clerk Beth McEwen, Deputy Clerk Di Cathcart, Greg Smith, Jeff Rogers, Carl Uchytel, and Erich Schaal.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 10, 2021 – Regular Virtual Meeting

No objection, minutes passed.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

IV. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Juneau International Airport Maintenance Projects – Airport CARES Funded

Ms. Koester gave a brief explanation for the 2 requests within the memo.

Ms. Triem moved the Committee forward to the full Assembly an appropriation of up to \$1.56 million of Airport Cares Act Funding for replacement of sections of the Airport Terminal Outbound Baggage Conveyor System Master Control Panel Integration System and ask for unanimous consent.

No objections, motion passed.

Ms. Woll moved the Committee forward to the full Assembly the appropriation of up to \$600,000 for Airport Cares Act Funding for solicitation of engineering firm to design repairs and repaving of airport parking lots and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

B. Capitol Park Donation

Ms. Koester gave a brief background of the purpose for this donation and appropriation.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs moved to forward the acceptance of the donation from the Juneau Community Foundation's Capitol Fund in the amount of \$550,000 and appropriation to the

Capitol Park Reconstruction Project to the full Assembly for introduction at the June 14, 2021, Assembly meeting.

No objection, motion passed.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Next Steps for Solid Waste Conversation

Ms. Koester gave a brief explanation of the needs for this item. She asked for the Committee for a problem statement and recommendations and a plan with funding on how to move forward regarding the next steps for meeting the Assembly Goals. She stated one of the most important goals is increase a solid waste strategy which includes increasing recycling and dealing with abandoned and junk vehicles.

Mr. Eric Vance, Superintendent, Capitol Disposal, explained some of the issues with the increase in odors from the land fill. He spoke with the Committee on the efforts of Waste Management to increase odor control at the landfill. They have installed three additional wells for burning off the gases produced by the landfill. He mentioned that some of the increase in odor may be due to accepting dry biosolids from the wastewater treatment plant. They feel some of the increase in odors is due to the fact that with the wet environment in Juneau, the biosolids are being reconstituted and emitting additional odors from the landfill. They have since stopped accepting these biosolids for disposal. They will working with gas experts throughout the summer to bring the odors under control and keep them under control.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hale requested the land fill and Public Works and Engineering Department keep the Assembly informed with any issues that arise, and how the land fill is dealing with them in a more timely manner. With this last bout of odors, Assembly members did not have answers for the many public questions they were receiving from the public.

Ms. Koester gave further explanation saying the Department is working on several ideas on how to use the biosolids that are no longer going to the land fill. She confirmed biosolids are no longer going to the landfill. The Department is currently shipping biosolids south. There are several locations in the Lower 48 where they use biosolids as fertilizer in large farming industries. The Department is trying this out with a few flower beds near the wastewater treatment plant.

Ms. Koester also addressed the letter from Mr. Watt to DEC, and the City working with the landfill to control the odors from the landfill.

Ms. Koester gave some background to the JCOS information included in the packet related to a presentation made by JCOS on April 14, 2021. She asked the Committee for direction on how to proceed with the recommendations made in the presentation.

Discussion ensued.

Direction from the Committee: Tracking whether biosolids is the issue to the odor increase at the landfill. Would it be possible to receive quarterly landfill reports to the Committee on odor control at the landfill? Further explore waste diversion in order to extend the life of the landfill. Continue to get information out to the public as to the most efficient way to divert waste and

updates on odor control. Look at the program White Horse, YK Canada uses for diverting their waste.

Ms. Koester gave her understanding of the direction to be to develop a possible problem statement and action for the odor control goal at the next meeting. Also, put more thought into what a zero waste plan would look like, and what the development of that strategy would be. The idea would be to develop a plan that requires public input and research. Determining the budget to develop the plan. Then have the plan formally adopted by the Assembly. She sees two Assembly stages, the first would be to authorize the action of developing the plan and the second would be to adopt the plan.

VI. UPDATE on PWFC ACTION ITEMS to ADVANCE 2021 ASSEMBLY GOALS

A. Goal Update as of June 4, 2021

Ms. Koester gave a brief update to the Assembly goals since the previous meeting. She state the department will use the Glacier Valley Fire Station Ground Source Heat Pump as case study to analyze the cost savings for this type of energy usage.

Ms. Koester stated she had asked the JCOS Committee for an update to Goal 5B, Make a Long-term Plan to Achieve reliance on 80% Use of Renewable Energy Sources by 2045. They gave her a statement saying they have explored several potential energy data source options and have had some frustrations with the data and being able to analyze the data. They continue to work on this.

VII. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

A. May 5, 2021 to June 1, 2021

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. Next Regular Meeting will be July 19, 2021

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:56 PM.