PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
December 9, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Members Present: Mr. Bryson, Ms. Hale, Ms. Triem, Ms. Gladziszewski and Mr. Arndt – Planning Commission Liaison. Also present: Assemblyman Loren Jones and Mayor Weldon.

Staff Members Present: Greg Smith, Janet Sanbei, Nathan Coffee, Rorie Watt, Robert Palmer, Jeff Rogers, Patty Wahto, Ed Foster, Brian McGuire,

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 10, 2019 – Regular Minutes

Ms. Triem moved the approval of the October 10, 2019, regular meeting minutes and asked for unanimous consent.

Ms. Hale objected for making corrections.

Minutes approved with changes.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mike Orford, from the Valley, a local taxi driver, explained he would like to work through the process to increase taxi meter rates in Juneau. Rates have not been increased since 2008. Inflation has gone up 20% since then. The current initial rate to get in the car is $3.40. In the summer the tour rate is $70/hour for the taxi and the driver. He is hoping an increase of 20% would be accepted. The petition was signed in September.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Watt indicated this will require an ordinance change in order for the rate to be increased. It will require a committee to give direction as to how much the rate should be increased.

Ms. Gladziszewski stated the last time the rate increased, it was heard by the Committee of the Whole. The Committee of the Whole at that time looked at rates from other communities and the proposed increase. Past history has shown the COW has been inclined to accept the proposed amount presented.

Ms. Hale stated she will discuss with the City Manager, the Mayor, and possibly Ms. Gladziszewski as well to determine which committee should hear this proposal. She will let Mr. Orford know which committee will hear this subject next.

IV. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. JNU Supplemental Agreement for Demolition of old Sand Chemical

Mr. Watt explained the code requirements for “no bid” procurement. He stated supplemental agreements were added as a source for adding work not originally within the scope, if it meets certain requirements meeting a public interest through a finding report. The Code gives the City Manager discretionary limits up to $250,000, or a percentage of the Capital Improvement Project. Beyond that dollar amount, it is the authority of the Assembly. Since this is an Assembly decision, he asked Ms. Wahto to bring this request before the Public Works and Facilities Committee. Mr. Jones realized and received confirmation from the City Attorney that the finding is to be written by the City Manager. Mr. Watt was under the assumption it was to be written by the Airport Manager. Mr. Watt asked Ms. Wahto to come forward and explain the request.

Ms. Wahto indicated the memo outlines what is in the code and how they feel this meets the requirements to issue a supplemental agreement. $400,000 is approximately 4.3% of original contract.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hale asked Mr. Watt to speak to the finding of this project.

Mr. Watt stated this is a 2-part issue. There is the public best interest finding which is written by the City Manager and then there is the dollar amount which must be decided by the Assembly. He does not feel this is a good case for a supplemental agreement. The Assembly’s past practice has been to be very conservative about issuing supplemental agreements. He feels if the Public Works & Facilities Committee were to apply past practice to this case, he would not advise moving forward. He feels the best public finding he could write would be insufficient. If the Committee wishes to go forward with the Supplemental Agreement, he could write his best case scenario and then the decision could be made at the Assembly level.

More discussion ensued.

Ms. Gladziszewski moved the Public Works & Facilities Committee recommend to the Assembly a Supplemental Agreement with Dawson Construction not exceed $400,000.

Ms. Gladziszewski will speak against the motion. She doesn’t believe it meets the standard or the threshold in the ordinance. The City Manager is indicating he does not feel it meets the standard either.

Mr. Bryson asked to get the legal situation satisfied. He feels the Committee should not vote on an issue that would leave a property owner stranded.

The vote was 4 nays.

Motion did not pass.

B. Centennial Hall Update

Mr. Coffee gave a brief explanation of the information in the packet. He stated an updated version was given to the Committee on their desks.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Hale asked if Engineering Staff could summarize the meeting in order to refresh the Committee's memory. She understands the estimate is very preliminary. She feels it is important to determine what improvements need to be made to Centennial Hall, but without the connection to the new JACC building, as there are still things to be worked out with the new JACC building.

Ms. Gladziszewski moved the Public Works & Facilities Committee sees no reason to change its approach to the Centennial Hall construction made by the Assembly prior to the October 2019 Vote. We believe it is still correct to finance the items we said we would finance previously minus the walkway connection to the JACC.

Ms. Gladziszewski amended her motion to add the amount of the renovations will be approximately $7M.

Ms. Hale stated the motion is roughly…the items identified in our previous meeting before the ballot decision, which we believe are items 1-5 and removing the connection to the JACC is roughly $7M dollars is being forwarded from the Public Works & Facilities Committee to the Finance Committee.

Motion passed.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Electric buses

Ed Foster, Transit Superintendent, updated the committee on the purchase of a new electric bus. The new bus will arrive in July. The date keeps getting pushed back, as supply of many of the components is behind, due to the number of electric buses being ordered. Orders for electric buses has gone up considerably. There is a grant we have received which will be to purchase electric buses, charging stations, and a generator.

Discussion ensued.

B. Dock Electrification

Mr. Uchytil stated the dock electrification has not be started yet. The Docks/Harbors Department is waiting for the Deputy Port Engineer to be hired and brought on board. The new engineer will be tasked with working on this project.

Discussion ensued.

VI. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

A. October 23, 2019 – November 12, 2019

B. November 13, 2019 – December 3, 2019

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM

A. Next meeting will be January 6, 2020, 12:00 PM – Assembly Chambers