

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE
January 14, 2019 – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm.

Members present: Mr. Jones, Mr. Edwardson, Ms. Triem, and Ms. Hale (Phone)

Staff present: Mr. Vigue, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bohan, Carl Uchtyl, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Watt, Mr. Gillette, Mr. Foster, Mr. Bartholomew, Mayor Weldon

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved without objection.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

IV. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Amalga Harbor Fish Cleaning Float

Mr. Jones Mr. Uchtyl asked about the ongoing process of discussions. He asked if the meetings discussed in the memo were separate meetings.

Mr. Uchtyl stated the meetings were separate from the hearings of Docks and Harbors for the process.

Mr. Jones asked if the Committee approves the ordinance does that automatically accept the project as submitted to Fish and Game.

Mr. Uchtyl stated it would not approve the project, it is just approving the grant application. There is an additional process for approving the project once Docks and Harbors gets approval of the grant from Fish and Game.

Discussion ensued about the 4-year process of applying with Fish and Game for a cooperative grant and a reimbursable grant, and future process for addressing public concerns.

Kay Sullivan, 5100 Amalga Harbor Rd. Kate spoke for a group of residents living at the harbor. She wanted to make it clear there is a bear problem in the area due to fish carcasses and other fish waste being dumped in the harbor. There is a written regulation on how fish waste is to be dealt with in the harbors. Residents feel boaters are not following the regulations for properly dealing with fish waste at Amalga Harbor. There is an abundance of fish waste and scum during the summer. Often what happens is the carcasses fill with gas and then float to the surface. The carcasses rarely are

carried away out of the harbor, but end up being brought to shore with the tide. Bears are no longer afraid of the residents and have become aggressive, killing a dog and having physical contact with the owner. The residents ask Docks and Harbors to work further with Fish and Game to come up with a better solution. They feel adding a fish cleaning station will increase the number of carcasses polluting the harbor and increasing bear activity. They look forward to participating in the public meetings in February and March. They hope a solution can be found which will serve both the residents and the boaters. They asked the Committee to not move the approval forward until the concerns of the residents can be resolved.

Ms. Triem asked which entity between Fish and Game and Docks and Harbors would be designing the fish cleaning station and who is responsible for implementing the best management practices that are mentioned in the resident letters?

Question not answered.

Doug Larsen, 16005 Lena Way. His family owns a cabin at Amalga Harbor. He echos some of what Ms. Sullivan said. He would like to expand on it. He does thank the Harbor Department for the work that has been done to this point and for what the Harbor Department is trying to do to make it better. Problems are real. We're not sure this solution will work. But we for sure don't want the problems to increase. He read an excerpt from the Amalga Fish Cleaning Feasibility Draft May 2015, stating that extending the float or locating a separate float was not feasible, approach area is limited. In the next draft from December 2015, it says, extending the float or locating a separate float was not immediately considered as locating a float outside the basin area would be better. However after serious comments from Fish & Game... land use issues and possible environmental studies at a remote location, the extended float location was added for further consideration, even though maneuvering in the basin area is somewhat limited and congested. Further consideration is being given for extending the float and adding a cleaning station at the end of the float. Mr. Larsen stated early on extending the float or adding another float within the basin was not an option. With boaters not following best management practices, why would the City continue going down the road with a project that is not feasible. There must be other alternatives. He asks the City to consider barges and fish grinding stations, and other alternatives. It seems the major concern for Fish and Game is the data collection. I understand the importance of data collection for managing resources. If getting that data interferes with public safety and the environment, then something needs to be figured out to deal with the inconsistency between the two.

Mr. Edwardson asked if the project goes through does he feel there will be more fish waste.

Mr. Larsen stated that he feels more fish cleaning stations will provide the opportunity for more people to clean their fish, which will then increase the amount of fish carcasses in the basin.

Mr. Jones stated this is scheduled for public hearing on January 28th. He spoke with the City Attorney, the Committee has several options. The Committee can report back that the Committee discussed the issue at today's meeting and we recommend accepting the grant, to take public testimony but not accept the grant, accept the grant but postpone

for more public testimony, put a list of conditions the Committee would like the Assembly to ask the City Manager to do in terms of hearings, or no action until those hearings are completed. We could ask that it be sent back to us.

Ms. Triem asked if accepting the grant will require the City to complete the project by a certain date.

Mr. Uchytel stated this is just accepting the grant, but there is no timeline as to when the funds need to be used. There are a few issues with some permits that need to go through Federal review, because of the Federal shutdown. This will put the project behind the anticipated schedule and it will not be completed this fiscal year. There is the opportunity to hold public meetings and listen to concerns. He would like to have a third party evaluate the situation, and then take it to the board sometime in May or June, then be constructed next winter.

Additional discussion about the mechanics of the process ensued.

Ms. Hale moved to advise the Assembly to postpone the Ordinance until after Docks and Harbors has had a chance to have a public meeting to discuss this further both with the public and Fish and Game.

No objection motion passed.

B. BRH Pharmacy Cleanroom Appropriation

Mr. William Gardner, Chief Clinical Officer at BRH, came forward to answer questions of the Committee.

Mr. Vigue explained the appropriation request to the Committee.

Mr. Edwardson asked if this were not approved, what the consequences may be.

Mr. Gardner stated this is a Federal Mandate to be able to create compound medications within the facility. In order to become compliant with the regulation we need to complete this project by the end of this year.

Mr. Edwards moved the Public Works and Facilities Committee forward the appropriation of \$160,000 for preconstruction costs and request the Assembly approve the appropriation.

C. Shaune Drive Public Works Property Sale Proceeds Appropriations

Mr. Vigue stated the City will be closing on the sale of the Shaune Drive Public Works property to Alaska Brewing on January 15, 2018. The request is for two appropriations. The first appropriation is for \$300,000 to be returned to the Deferred Building Maintenance Fund. These funds were used to renovate the Valley shop in order to move the water utility staff. The second appropriation is for \$1.47 million to be placed in a new CIP in order to build a new Recycleworks consolidated facility, which will house the Household Hazardous Waste program and recycling, at the Landfill, currently under negotiations.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Triem moved the Public Works and Facilities Committee forward the two appropriations to the full Assembly for approval.

No objection, motion passed.

V. Information Items

A. FY20 Capital Improvement Schedule

Mr. Jones reiterated the schedule presented in the memo from John Bohan.

Discussion ensued.

B. Archipelago – Purchase & Sale Agreement: Limited Right to Object Clause

Mr. Watt explained the purpose of bringing this before the committee. He feels this land purchase contract is a good option for the City. He gave a brief explanation of other agreements the City has signed along the waterfront.

Discussion ensued.

C. Snow Removal/Snow Plowing

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Foster to come forward and answer questions some of the Committee members have on the process for snow removal or snow plowing. Committee members had questions from the public regarding blocking driveways. There is also concern from Committee members regarding snow plowing activity being focused on car movement over pedestrian traffic. It is important to be sure the pedestrians can also get around safely. There are many residents living downtown that prefer to get to where they are going on foot.

Discussion ensued.

VI. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

A. December 6, 2018 – January 9, 2019

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Next Meeting Scheduled for February 4, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.