PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – January 8, 2018
12:00 PM – City Hall Assembly Chambers
MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Jones (Chair), Ms. Weldon, Mr. Gregory, Ms. Gladziszewski (By Phone)

Staff Present: Mayor Ken Koelsch, City Manager Rorie Watt, Mila Cosgrove, Roger Healy, Tina Brown, Greg Smith, John Bohan, Rob Steedle, Ed Foster

Planning Commission: Carl Greene

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. November 20, 2017 – Approved
B. December 4, 2017 - Approved

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Duff Mitchell of 3274 Pioneer Ave brought attention to the Volkswagen settlement. VW has been penalized a substantial sum of money and that our State will receive a very small portion of it. But because Juneau is uniquely situated and our City already has an electric vehicle encouragement program in place. Mr. Mitchell knows that JEDC is working on trying to apply or working with a group to get some of those funds. There are two other pots of money other than the State of Alaska. One is over a billion; it is a competitive process to which any City or State organization is free to apply. Also there is a Tribal portion, which he believes Tlingit and Haida is applying for. This is happening now and he wanted to let the PWFC know because with matching and other types of fund sources like this, it might be a wonderful opportunity to get our friends at VW Germany to pay for some chargers that are eligible for busses. He mentioned that the State of Washington is applying for electrified ferries in Puget Sound. It is quite a wide range of what you can use the funds for.

V. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. FY19 to FY24 Sales Tax Project Funding Schedule

Mr. Healy discussed the FY19 and FY24 Sales Tax Project Funding Schedule that the PWFC forwarded to the Finance Committee and has now returned to the PWFC. There were some questions on the allocations of funding. He stated that the schedule is a Staff recommendation based on knowing each program and project on how to best spend the funds; it is in terms of program needs each one maybe different, such as the airport needing match money up front. Building and School maintenance is in need of a flow of funds over the 5 year schedule to maintain JSD facilities. If there is a need to accelerate, the Finance Director has mentioned that an alternative would be to float a bond to get sufficient funds up front and have the payments come out of the allocation over the next few years. That's not in play here at this time. Mr. Healy took questions.

Ms. Weldon had asked this schedule to come back to the PWFC, after further review, she spoke with Mr. Healy who answered a few of her concerns. This schedule does not match their priority list. She would like Staff to take a look at a few of the projects, and change the order. In particular the pool versus Centennial Hall and the Harbor projects.

Mr. Healy mentioned that in the past, with 1% allocations, priorities change and PWFC has the ability to come back with specific recommendations, say one program is not ready for the funding now and another one is, passing whatever we do through Finance now will be included and identified in the CIP as to how we are going to spend money, but it certainly can be altered in the future as well to meet specific program needs.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Weldon motioned for Staff to take another look at the FY19 and FY24 Sales Tax Project Funding Schedule and then send it to Finance.

No objections. Motion passed

B. Electric Vehicle Charge Infrastructure & Management

Mr. Healy discussed the three items Staff is currently working on related to the electric vehicle charger infrastructure and management. More information will be presented by Ms. Elfers at the 1/29/18 PWFC. Also at the 11/27/17 Assembly Meeting, a proposed Ordinance No. 2017-35 amending the traffic code relating to electric vehicles and providing for a penalty was referred to the PWFC for consideration and referral back to the Assembly for hearing. Mr. Healy pointed PWFC members to the attached memo which proposed fees for use of a vehicle charging station would be in the form of a permit of $50 and fines for failure to deposit money, parking without a permit, vehicle not charging, or misuse of a permit. We would like recommendations from the PWFC and ultimately the goal would be to have the PWFC forward Ordinance No. 2017-35 back to the Assembly for hearing.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jones requested that Ordinance No. 2017-35 regarding traffic code relating to electric vehicle charging stations will stay with the PWFC until the 1/29/18 meeting.

C. CIP Transfers and Closeouts

Mr. Bohan spoke on the list of CIP's Engineering will be closing and others that are close to closing. Mr. Bohan said that as Staff looked into the design projects for this year we found a few that are lacking funds, so we are trying to catch up and provide enough funding to get these projects on the street for the summer.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Weldon motioned that the list of transfers and closeouts provided in the memo dated 1/3/18 from John Bohan be forward to the Assembly for approval.

No objections. Motion passed

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. City Shop Vehicle Wash Bay – Update and Funding

Mr. Healy discussed the funding allocation in FY17 and FY18 for this CIP funded to the amount of $1,050,000. During schematic design it was determined that the initial funding allocation is far too low. The current estimate for the construction portion is $1.6 million and final consultant design, consultant inspection, special inspection, CBJ management cost and contingencies bring the total project cost to approximately $2.2 million.

Mr. Foster said that we currently do not have a facility to wash vehicles and equipment and there is a need to clean our City vehicles in an environmentally sensitive manor. We do have an automatic bus wash system but it was designed for buses only. We have been having a hard time extending the life of our equipment and vehicles due to deterioration because we do not have an adequate wash facility.

Discussion ensued.

B. Transit Update

Mr. Healy discussed the need for a new Valley Transit Center. The Nugget Mall site is not an ideal site anymore and we would like to move the site up the Valley, which means across Egan Drive. Transit is looking at three potential sites near the Mendenhall/Vintage Mall area. This move kicked off a discussion on bus scheduling, because with the existing schedules some runs are on very tight timelines which could mean potential transfers are lost or customers are waiting an additional half an hour or more for the follow up bus to come through. Transit has looked at scheduling alternatives but it will require new schedules of three big circles: Douglas/Downtown, Downtown/Valley, and a Valley circulator. The overall goals are to improve service, make it as budget neutral as possible, and also make it better for the drivers who are that are stressed about taking a 5 minute bathroom break and losing time on the route due to traffic delays. This will require a public process that the City has to do a good job of identifying to the users and community what we are looking at and how it is going to make the schedules better.

Mr. Jones asked about park and ride and if we could we take a look at this while considering the new Valley Transit Center.

Mr. Healy said that the initial concept of the Valley Transit Center includes some parking spaces for a park and ride component. We are thinking of about 20-25 spaces, with possibly adding spaces as needed.

Mr. Healy discussed the listed fleet upgrade ordinances and the replacement schedule for buses FY22. Seven buses are reaching the end of their useful life so by FY20 we need to start identifying if we have the match funds, place the order and issue an RFP to purchase the new buses. Regarding electric busses, it is not conclusive yet of the life-cycle costs between electric and diesel busses. There has not been a long term history for maintenance costs for electric busses. There have been a few studies that have been reviewed and overall, the costs are about the same but the information is not extensive. It is suggested that we try out an electrical bus and evaluate future commitments based on a local trial period.

Discussion ensued.

C. FY19 Capital Improvement Plan Schedule

Mr. Jones asked if the provided memo just lists out the dates for the FY19 Capital Improvement Program Schedule.

Mr. Healy said yes, the memo lists out the dates for the FY19 Capital Improvement Program Schedule.

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VII. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting is January 29, 2018. Meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM.