

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – January 9, 2017
12:00 – 1:00 PM – City Hall Assembly Chambers
MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

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

Members Present: Ms. Becker (Chair), Mr. Nankervis, Ms. Weldon

Staff Present: Roger Healy, Tina Brown, John Bohan, Michele Elfers, Mila Cosgrove, Rob Steedle, David Means, Greg Smith

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes for November 21, 2016 – Approved

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Gastineau School DIA Memorial Presentation

Barbara Cadiente-Nelson spoke on the behalf of the Douglas Indian Association (DIA). In June of 2012, construction workers unintentionally unearthed human remains from historic burials during the renovation of the Gastineau School. The burials were associated with the historic Native Cemetery in Douglas and the remains of 5 individuals were found. Ms. Cadiente-Nelson said that although it was well known that the Gastineau School was built upon Native graves, the news of the unearthing of these graves was a significant blow and an assault to the Native Community and to the Community as a whole. DIA coordinated immediate action to address the grief, shock, and anger that ensued. There were untold hours of meetings with DIA Elders and Tribal Members and after much deliberation the Elders reached a decision that the work at Gastineau School must continue.

Sean Boily of Northwind Architects discussed the plans for a memorial to honor the departed souls discovered on the site and the history of the Douglas Island people. There are three distinct elements for the memorial site. The central element will be for education. It will have a story line both in the Tlingit and English language, sharing a positive message of the Tlingit people's relationship to this land and location. The vision for this is to integrate words with Tlingit art into a bronze plaque component that is tiled into the existing plaza. It will have a Tlingit fire dish that is an element of carrying forward the sharing of the community honoring the departed souls there. It will consist

of an illuminated stone base with a cast bronze or copper component that will be rendered by an artist who will be brought into the design process. There will also be a plaque describing the discovery made during construction. In the quiet grove of trees near the plaza is a place that is suited for a memorial. Northwind Architects also wants to enhance the edges of the site with an element of protection and an interpretive relationship with the Taku River by using river rocks for the path. They are currently finishing up with the design. Construction will take place in the spring with some of the bronze work being installed as soon as they are received.

Discussion ensued.

B. Auke Lake Way & Mendenhall Loop – Speed Limit

David Epstein, Regional Traffic and Safety Engineer for Alaska DOT Southcoast Region, discussed his response to a letter from Bruce Botelho to the Assembly and the Mayor on November 7, 2016, requesting a speed study of Auke Lake Way and Mendenhall Loop. In order for this to take place Mr. Epstein said it would be a matter of the Assembly requesting a speed study from ADOT. ADOT could combine the CBJ request with a speed study they have already committed to once construction is finished on the Fritz Cove to Seaview project. Mr. Epstein indicated that a traffic speed study for the Backloop Road could be conducted at the same time at no cost. ADOT would need a request from the City in writing for the traffic speed study for Backloop Road. The traffic study would take place in the summer of 2018. He provided a copy of the policy and procedure.

Mr. Healy agreed and will provide ADOT with a letter requesting the traffic study.

Discussion ensued.

C. RecycleWorks Public Meetings Update

Michelle Elfers gave a detailed update on the RecycleWorks Program. Ms. Elfers said that two public meetings had been held since December and they have also spoken with the Lemon Creek Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee. Ms. Elfers stated that the RecycleWorks Program is at a juncture where decisions are needed for its future in the next 5 to 10 years. The highlights of the presentations were: The program is comprised of three staff members, Jim Penor, the Solid Waste Coordinator. Stewart Ashton, who is acting as the program operator and driver, and Ms. Elfers. The program goal is to find the best way to effectively deal with the trash that comes into our community. Currently, Juneau produces about 33,000 tons of trash a year. Staff conducted a waste characterization study and it told us that a good portion of our garbage could be beneficially reused, recycled or composted. We are currently recycling about 10 percent of our waste stream. The EPA says that 60 to 70 percent of garbage can be recycled and beneficially reused. Ms. Elfers pointed out that the collection of garbage is a regulated utility. The City is not allowed to collect garbage right now and we would have to own a certificate in order to do so. Ms. Elfers said that CBJ did try to get a second certificate but the negotiations were unsuccessful. Right now we do not control

where our garbage goes and once it gets to the landfill we do not have control as to what happens to it. An option would be to ship the garbage down south. Another option that is often talked about is to buy an incinerator or some kind of waste energy technology. We have conducted a few studies on this the most recent was 2 years ago as a part of the Biosolids project. What we found each time is that our waste stream is not large enough to be economically viable to support an incinerator or waste energy technology. Now we are focusing on maximizing our diversion of waste from the landfill and maximizing beneficial reuse of material.

Discussion ensued.

D. Meander Bend – Mendenhall River Update

Mr. Healy and Mr. Bohan provided an update on Meander Bend – Mendenhall River Proposed LID. 36 properties were sent informal proposed LID ballots requesting support of or opposition to the project based on an estimate of a \$100,000 assessment per property. The informal ballot results are 19 properties in favor, 14 properties opposed, 1 property undecided and 2 properties that did not respond. There are 2 CBJ parcels that do not participate. NRCS was provided the results and will take them into consideration as they proceed with their design. With the vote results this could become an issue as every resident included in the LID is required to participate via an increased property assessment.

Mr. Healy said that as a part of the requirements for the construction funding, the CBJ must act as an intermediary between the residents and the NRCS.

E. Downtown Street Improvement City State Permit Review (CSP)

Michele Elfers provided an update on the Planning Commission's review of the Downtown Street Improvement project as provided in the memo.

Discussion ensued.

VII. **CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT**

Mr. Bohan provided an explanation on the bid estimate versus the actual bid numbers. Mr. Bohan explained that when we publish an estimate the designer is trying to provide a low bid estimate, rather the firm is trying to provide a probable estimate of costs for the project. Ideally you want to be right in the middle.

Mr. Smith, Dzantik'i Heeni Roof Repairs will probably be re-bid with some reduced work.

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

The next PWFC meeting will be January 30, 2017, at which time we should provide the PWFC with the draft CIP.