Public Works & Facilities Committee Meeting
October 14, 2013
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm.

Committee Members Present: Randy Wanamaker, Chair, Jesse Kiehl, Jerry Nankervis,
Planning Commission: Dennis Watson
Other Assembly Members: Mayor Merrill Sanford, Loren Jones, Karen Crane
City Manager: Kim Kiefer
Deputy City Manager: Rob Steedle
Staff present: Rorie Watt, John Bohan, Rich Ritter, Michelle Elfers, Jennifer Mannix, Tina Brown, Brent Fischer, Ed Foster, Kit Watts, Maggie Ford, Renee Loree, Laurie Sica, George Schaaf, Dave Crabtree, Jim Penor

II. Approval of Minutes

A. August 26, 2013, Regular Meeting

Minutes approved

III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None.

IV. Items for Action

A. Empty Chair Grant Appropriation

Mr. Watt – Staff recommends that the ordinance to appropriate $106,000 for the construction and installation of the Empty Chair Memorial and supporting education materials be forwarded to the Assembly for approval. This is on the October 14, 2013, Assembly agenda.

Mr. Nankervis moved Staff's recommendation to forward ordinance to appropriate $106,000 for the construction and installation of the Empty Chair Memorial and supporting education materials to the full Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

B. Project Closeouts & Transfers

Mr. Watt – Staff recommends the transfers and de-appropriations, moving remaining funds to similar CIP's for 24 Capital Improvements Projects (CIPs) as shown in the attached list in the PWFC packet be forwarded to the full Assembly for approval.

Projects include three Wastewater CIPs that have ADEC loan funding that is not fully expended and must be de-appropriated by ordinance.

Previously there was a question by Mr. Nankervis about the effect loan funds might have on utility rates. At the next PWFC meeting Mr. Duncan, Director of Public Works will be giving a presentation on the process for the utility rate planning. This would be a good time to talk about this issue.

Additionally there is $100,000 that would go toward the Economic Development Plan that is on the agenda for tonight's Assembly meeting. A large share of the closeouts are going to one consolidated biosolids CIP. Whatever method is chosen to manage biosolids, it is going to take a lot of money.

The Glacier Hwy. sewer work would be coordinated with a DOT project.

Discussion Ensued.

Mr. Kiehl moved Staff's recommendation to forward the transfers and de-appropriation ordinances for 24 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) closeouts as shown in the attached list in the PWFC packet to the full Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

C. AK DOT STIP Amendment

Mr. Watt – Staff recommends that the PWFC forward to tonight's full Assembly for approval the attached letter to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Division of Program Development, ATTN: STIP, from Mayor Sanford requesting that Auke Lake Wayside project stay on the STIP, but delay funding for a year. This will allow DOT & CBJ to jointly try to plan for a project scope that can be afforded within the constraints of the new federal legislation (MAP-21). If Juneau is to comment on the STIP Amendment 8, we must send comments in by October 23rd.

Mr. Wannamaker would like to see a few grammatical errors corrected.

Mr. Kiehl - we would like to see Staff pursue the Recreation Trails Program with DOT which receives funds at the O9 Level, which he believes is a safety level and is managed by DNR. There are elements of the wayside project that tie in directly with the trails and might qualify for this funding. As we work with DOT he would like to explore this option.

Discussion Ensued.

Mr. Kiehl moved Staff recommendation to forward to the full Assembly for approval Mr. Watt's attached draft letter from Mayor Sanford regarding the AK DOT STIP Amendment.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

V. Information Items

A. Biosolids

Mr. Watt - We recently had a request for proposals out for the disposal of biosolids. We received one proposal, and their proposal was about 40% over our current shippers' $1.1 million charge. They proposed heat drying, where they heat up the sludge to drive off the water. It is a good technology; it is an acceptable technology; but it has the potential to generate severe odor problems. The proposer envisioned being permitted and up and running by January 1, 2014. I feel that was impossible. We did research and contacted a town in Oregon that currently processed their sludge in this manner. They have very serious odor problems. Due to the combination of being able to be ready when the current contract ends at the end of this year, the potential of severe odor, and the cost increase of 40%, we canceled the award. Staff has been working on how to stabilize our shipping of the biosolids down south. There have been issues with the current shipping containers leaking. We have a contract to obtain containers that are watertight and will solve the shipper's issues. The containers are expensive at $795,000, but they have a salvage value of about half the cost.

Mr. Kiehl asked for a cost breakdown of where the funding for biosolids is coming from and what is being funded in the way of biosolids.

Discussion ensued.

VI. Contracts Division Activity Report

Mr. Kiehl asked about the exact site of the Capital School Sidewalk Repairs project, and asked that users be notified of the work.

VII. Planning Commission Updates

Mr. Watson provided a Planning Commission update. There is confusion for the public on the narrowing of the street on Meander Way, and CBJ projects in general, but the Planning Commission is in favor of current standard road widths for new projects.

Mr. Watt - on October 28th there is a joint Assembly- Planning Commission meeting and they are going to be talking about the road standard and sidewalk issues.

VIII. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Tom Brice of IBW Juneau Trade Council spoke in regards to project labor agreement (PLA) in respect to the Docks and Harbors bids.

IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 12:46 pm.