

DRAFT
Public Works & Facilities Committee Meeting
July 1, 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, Jerry Nankervis (By Phone), Jesse Kiehl and Carlton Smith

Planning Commission: Dennis Watson

Other Assembly Members: Mayor Merrill Sanford, Loren Jones

City Manager: Kim Kiefer

Deputy City Manager: Rob Steedle

Staff present: Rorie Watt, John Bohan, Rich Ritter, Jennifer Mannix, Tina Brown, Catherine Fritz, Michele Elfers, Hal Hart

II. Approval of Minutes

A. May 20, 2013, Regular Meeting

Minutes approved

III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None.

IV. Items for Action

A. SREF Appropriation - Airport

Mr. Watt – A memo is in the packet from Catherine Fritz requesting that the Assembly appropriate the State of Alaska grant of \$3M dollars from the legislature for the Snow Removal Equipment Facility (SREF) project and to forward the request to the full Assembly for approval. We will be presenting a big projects update before the PWFC soon. It will include the SREF, Valley Library, Centennial Hall and Eaglecrest projects.

In late May the FAA Certification Inspector determined the airport runway needed emergency repairs to prevent Foreign Object Debris (FOD). The Airport did a change order for just over \$1M dollars to the existing contract with Secon for the Runway Safety Area project. This issue will come before the Assembly.

Mr. Kiehl moved the request for the appropriation of the \$3M State of Alaska grant for the Snow Removal Equipment Facility project be forwarded to the full Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

B. Lawson Creek Lift Station CIP Transfer

Mr. Watt – A memo is in the packet from Mr. Bohan requesting the transfer of \$37k from the Bayview Subdivision Sewer Outfall Sewer CIP and \$32k from the North Douglas Sewer Expansion both ADEC Grant Funding to the Lawson Creek Pump Station Replacement CIP, which will allow us to spend the remaining ADEC Grant Funds.

Mr. Smith moved the transfer of ADEC Grant funding from the closeout of the Bayview Subdivision Sewer Outfall CIP and the North Douglas Sewer Expansion CIP to the Lawson Creek Pump Station Replacement CIP in the total amount of \$69k be forwarded to the full Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

C. Water & Wastewater CIP Appropriation

Mr. Watt – The City recently passed their budget which included CIP funding for projects. The utility projects do not get appropriated with the CIP. The money gets appropriated into the Utility Reserves; then the Utility CIP's get appropriated out of the Utility Reserves. Staff requests PWFC forward the appropriation ordinance to move the following list of projects from the Utility Reserves into their appropriate CIP's.

Water Utility - \$300,000 total

- W75-047 Juneau Douglas Bridge Water Repairs \$100k
- W75-048 Backloop Water Repairs \$75k
- W75-036 Areawide Water Main Repairs \$125k

Wastewater Utility - \$350,000 total

- U76-098 Biosolids Management \$275k
- W75-048 Backloop Sewer Repairs \$75k

Mr. Kiehl moved the request for the appropriation ordinance for Water and Wastewater Utility CIP's as shown in the memo be forwarded to the full Assembly for approval.

Hearing no objection, the motion was approved.

V. Information Items

A. Biosolids Management Decision Matrix

Mr. Watt – Biosolids management is a concern to both the City's utilities and to the community. Since the incinerator shut down we have been shipping the biosolids down south. The issue and its solution will involve many millions of dollars in Capital expenditures and rate payer's costs. We are doing a very open and exhaustive process with staff and the community. Because of our geography and climate, a solution for a Class A end product is preferable select something that minimizes the volume of that product. The Assembly actions that will be required will be to find funding in the millions and decide the balance in paying more or less in Capital costs and the impacts to the rate payers, then ultimately setting the rates appropriately, then ultimately confirming the solution and building the infrastructure.

Discussion ensued.

B. Water Utility Report

Mr. Watt – We have had some turbidity issues with the Salmon Creek Reservoir with the hot, dry weather which causes higher water demand and our reservoir levels have been down. This has caused the Utility to restrict water flow to the cruise ships. Cruise ships prefer to take on water in Juneau because of its high quality. The City has been contacted by Cruise Ship representatives interested in helping to make access to Juneau water more predictable. We have a meeting with Port Staff, Public Works, Cruise Line and other interested parties and then this issue will come before the Assembly again.

Out of the study of water systems related to the AJ Mine, we have selected filtration at the Salmon Creek Reservoir as a long term alternative for improving our water supply abilities. For the last several months we have been having great results in our water sampling at the Salmon Creek Reservoir. With DEC regulations, they administer EPA requirements, and we had been on track to put in ultra violet disinfection, but if we can prove out over a 24 month period, that we do not have the bacteria problem (with cryptosporidium), then we could save the money from not having to install the UV system. Instead we can install filtration and meet the EPA water secondary treatment requirements. This will allow us to make Salmon Creek a year round facility. Other bacteria are already being treated successfully with chlorination. Cryptosporidium is not as effectively treated by chlorination.

The Water Utility has been doing electrical work in Last Chance Basin, which is at the end of the distribution line. When you are at the end of the line you get a lot of fluctuations in the voltage. The Utility's back up power generation and transfer switch are aging. We are looking at our power systems and how and when to replace equipment in the Basin, which will be turning into a capital project in the next year or two. It will important to size a new system according to our future power needs in the Basin.

We are continuing to lose production in the Well Fields. In the next few years we should drill some new wells. Many of the current wells have been in operation for decades. We have a hydrologist working for us to provide a report this fall that will include recommendations. We are looking at drilling new wells close to the existing wells and continuing to use the existing infrastructure. This could turn into a decent size Capital project in the future.

In the 1980's the City invested heavily in the sewer and water infrastructure we are coming back around to another round of Capital projects related to our utility infrastructure.

C. Downtown Construction Projects Update

Mr. Watt – Main Street is looking good with the road paved, and work is continuing on the sidewalks and canopy. The contractor for the Capitol renovation project is doing a great job on minimizing the impact to the public, but the work does require the closure of 4th Street. We have established good communication between the Contractor and the Transit System.

Mr. Watt – the Sealaska building contractor will be selected soon. The complexity for this project will be construction during the tourist season. There will be some street closures because we want property owners to build up to their setbacks. The Planning Commission granted the permits for the new Sealaska Building and we should be getting a construction schedule once a Contractor has been selected. There were requests to the Planning Commission for complete closure for Shattuck Way and Parking issues related to that will be brought back to the PWFC.

Mr. Watson – There was a request from the Planning Commission to Sealaska to keep constant updates to the surrounding business community on their project.

Mr. Kiehl – requested that Staff consider alternative routes for the anticipated closure of 4th Street next summer.

VI. Contracts Division Activity Report

Mr. Kiehl – inquired about the difference between some construction estimates and the low bid amounts.

Mr. Watt – gave the different reasons on why consultant estimates and bids can have wide differences.

Mr. Watson – spoke on two projects that came before the Planning Commission recently: the Auke Bay Boat Launch project and Mendenhall River Bridge on Glacier Highway and the pedestrian/equestrian access in the area.

Discussion ensued.

VII. Adjournment – Next Meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm.