

DRAFT
Public Works & Facilities Committee Meeting
April 29, 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, and Jesse Kiehl

Planning Commission Representative: Dennis Watson

Other Assembly Members: Mayor Merrill Sanford, Mary Becker

City Manager: Kim Kiefer

Deputy City Manager: Rob Steedle

Staff present: Rorie Watt, John Bohan, Ron King, Richard Ritter, Kirk Duncan, Tom Trego, Tina Brown, Ed Foster, Dave Crabtree, Janella Lewis, Bob Dilley

II. Approval of Minutes

A. April 8, 2013, Regular Meeting

Minutes approved with corrections

III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Howard and Joann Lockwood in attendance, Joann read a letter that was given to the PWFC that requested information on the Snow Storage Site Facility, Contract E13-151, the following was outlined:

1. Requested a professional explanation and legal back-up documentation on why the bid and RFP for the Snow Storage Site Facility, Contract E13-151 was solicited without the required conditional use permit.
2. Title search as outlined in the letter.
3. Conditional Use Permit with required Planning Commission approval.
4. DOT State of Alaska access road permit and possible study analysis for the project's access road to enter onto Thane Road.
5. AEL&P power line easement for the project's access road to enter onto Thane Road.

Please address all answers to Joann Lockwood.

Mr. Watt will respond in writing to this request.

IV. Items for Action

None.

V. Information Items

A. Public Works Director Report

1. Abandoned Cars

Officer Bob Dilley, spoke on the abandoned cars process on private and public property. For an abandoned car on public property it's either by complaint or officer observation; we place a 48 hour 'Intent to Impound' notice on the vehicle. We then try to contact the person and give them the option to move the car or giving them a \$300 abandoned vehicle ticket, we work with the public to take care of the abandoned vehicle; if they do not we impound the vehicle. For private property, we do not put an 'Intent to Impound' notice; we find the registered owner of the vehicle and give them the option of either moving the vehicle off of the private property or receiving a \$300 ticket. If the vehicle is not removed then the property owner is told to go to the DMV and get a title for the vehicle and have it removed from their property. The last registered owner is responsible for the vehicle. But sometimes it's been sold several times without having the title transferred. The Police Department can find out who the last registered vehicle owner is. But through the Alaska State Person Identification Network they are not allowed to tell the public who the registered owner is.

Kim Kiefer - the towing of vehicles currently comes out of JPD's budget. We are in the process of changing this. The money that we collect from vehicle registration to take care of the impounding and get the vehicles to the junk lot will be paid for out of the motor vehicle registration junk car fee.

Mr. Duncan - we have not done a vehicle junk car round up in two years. People are taking their vehicles to Skookum's because the price of metal is so high. The money they have been collecting through the Motor Vehicle registration junk car fee and the household hazardous waste fund now has about 1.4 Million dollars.

Discussion ensued.

2. Miscellaneous Q&A

A. Comprehensive Operations Analysis/Transit Development Plan, Including a Transit Improvement Plan

Mr. Duncan - the consultant, Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc., out of Portland were in town last week for the transit plan kick off meeting. We will meet with the Assembly three times, first to get the Assembly's input, then a meeting for tentative recommendations, and then for their final recommendations. They met with stakeholders and will be holding public meetings. Part of the operational analysis is to improve ridership.

B. Update on the Water and Wastewater Rate Study

Mr. Duncan - Financial Consultant Services was selected for the Water and Wastewater Rate Study; they did the original study 10 years ago. There will be a lot of public involvement, which will include educating the public on what the water and wastewater rates consist of and the capital and operation costs involved. We will begin this process next week. The estimated time frame is March 2014 for our completed study. The process will be similar to the Transit Plan as far as the Assembly and public are concerned

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Duncan gave a breakdown on back billing for customers that have not been billed for water or sewer because the paperwork fell through the cracks for various reasons.

Mr. Duncan further explained—If the mistake is due to the CBJ's error...the bills are back billed for one year. If the mistake is due to the homeowner...the bills go back three years. Legally, the City could go back six years.

There is currently a case where the homeowner hooked up to sewer six years ago, the homeowner called about a problem with the sewer service lateral. The City told them to call a plumber. They got it fixed, but it brought to the City's attention they had not been paying their sewer bill for all this time. They are contesting the one year back billing, but Mr. Duncan feels it is important to hold to the policy. He would like to make sure the City is being aggressive about billings to make sure sewer bills are paid on time. This benefits everyone.

Homeowners receiving the back billings are given the opportunity to pay through a payment plan.

C. Glacierwood Paving

Mr. Watt - residents on Glacierwood had the impression that their road was going to be reconstructed because of flooding issues in which a Master Plan was designed. The City was able to resolve the drainage issues by establishing new drainage paths and cleaning out old drainage paths. We did do some road reconstruction on other streets in this area for the new school and pool. There have been asphalt patches and they will continue to apply patches this summer. We have limited resources for our capital funding, and Glacierwood is not a high volume car road and there are not a lot of pedestrians to warrant new street reconstruction.

Discussion ensued.

D. Main Street Schedule Update

Mr. Watt - the road is closed between 3rd and 4th; we hope to get the road open by June 15th, this is the last of the Main St. projects. We will be trying to keep

one lane open. There are several times the contractor will need to dig in the same areas for water, sanitary sewer, storm drain, power conductors and phone lines, then road bed, then concrete curbs and then build the sidewalks. The project should be completed by August 15th. The parking between 3rd and 4th is not going away. There is a canopy on the AOB side of the road, so there will be covered walking more or less continuous from the parking garage up to 4th street, to provide a covered walk way to the Capitol. The State has elected to do an entrance canopy and concrete work.

Discussion ensued.

E. Ballfield Resurfacing

Mr. Watt - at the last Assembly meeting a member of the public testified about bentonite clay and silica sand being use in resurfacing the ball fields and concerns about dust. Since we get so much rainfall in Juneau, grass fields for sport facilities are not practical. Over the years Juneau has had dirt fields and we used a silty topping that we got for free out of the Montana Creek pit. It is a nice blend of clay silt that holds together well and caps the fields. This material is no longer available. We would like to have artificial turf on all of our fields but this is not economically viable. We are trying to recreate the Montana Creek topping by experimenting with a bentonite which is clay with gravel. This new mix is not creating any more dust.

VI. Contracts Division Activity Report

No Discussion.

VII. Adjournment – Next Meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.