



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 5, 2009, 9:30 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Public Works Committee was called to order at 9:30 a.m., on Monday, October 5, 2009, at the Emergency Operations Center, 355 South County Road. On roll call, Chair Coniglio and Committee Member Diamond were present.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as printed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jere Zenko, 232 Tangier Avenue, commented regarding the paving on Tangier Avenue. She said that she felt it was substandard, and sent photos to the Town.

Public Works Director Paul Brazil responded to Ms. Zenko's question regarding the contracts and specifications of the paving work. He stated that the work was being looked into.

IV. UPDATE REGARDING PLANNING FOR FUTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.[H. PAUL BRAZIL, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS]

Town Engineer Jim Bowser provided an update of the planning for future capital improvements at the East Central Regional (ECR) Water Reclamation Facility.

Doug Terry, manager of water resources, responded to questions and comments by Chair Coniglio.

Mr. Bowser explained that a planned upgrade to the ECR Water Reclamation Facility was to build a pelletizer. A pelletizer is a sludge drying building which produces a fertilizer material. The Solid Waste Authority (SWA) of Palm Beach County recently completed construction of a pelletizer. Initially, this facility was determined to be too small to handle the long term solids disposal needs of the ECR facility. A reanalysis determined that it can. The estimated cost for

ECR to build its' own pelletizer was approximately \$27 million. To join with the SWA's pelletizer, the estimated cost will be approximately \$11 million or less. The Town's portion, as a partner with ECR would be \$1 million. The ECR Board and SWA are negotiating the terms and conditions of joining the SWA pelletizer. The motivating factor to build the pelletizer was that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) wrote new rules requiring a greater level of treatment of the ECR sewage solids and the pelletizer was determined the best methodology to meet these requirements.

Town Manager Elwell, Mr. Brazil, and staff responded to questions and comments by the Committee.

V. UPDATE REGARDING SANITARY FORCE MAIN STUDY. [H. PAUL BRAZIL, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND KEVIN SCHANEN, P.E., KIMLEY HORN]

Mr. Brazil introduced Kevin Schanen, of Kimley Horn, and stated that the existing sanitary force main system was aging and that Mr. Schanen would explain some alternatives of managing it.

Mr. Schanen provided an update of the Sanitary Force Main Study of the Town, which was to determine what improvements were required to pump all of the Town's wastewater through a shared force main with the West Palm Beach. Currently, the wastewater a portion of the wastewater is going into the Lake Worth system, and a portion is being pumped north through a shared force main with West Palm Beach.

Mr. Schanen reviewed the costs of each of the scenarios that were presented. He noted that the cost difference would be approximately \$3.5 million between the modifications of the pipes and pump stations, or replacing like for like. The cost to pump to Lake Worth was approximately \$270,000 per year, which would pay for itself in about 8.5 years.

Mr. Elwell pointed out several of the following items that needed consideration before making the cost decision:

- The scope of work would need to be determined;
- The additional investment of \$10 million worth of work would change the system by avoiding Lake Worth, and saving the Town money;
- The span of years to complete the project;
- In the 20-year plan, the cost to the Town would be approximately \$6 million per year;
- The Town could pay as you go, or could bond the work and accelerate the construction, paying debt service for a longer period of time at a lesser cost; and
- The Town had budgeted \$600,000 for force main improvements this fiscal year; however, the cost was about \$6 million per year.

VI. POTENTIAL FOR ACCELERATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM IF IT IS DETERMINED TO BE FINANCIALLY ADVANTAGIOUS FOR THE TOWN TO ISSUE BONDS SOON DUE TO CURRENTLY FAVORABLE INTEREST RATES. [H.

PAUL BRAZIL, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS]

Mr. Brazil addressed the issue of accelerating the Capital Improvement Program for bond issuance because of the current favorable interest rates. He mentioned that the force mains between Sloan's and Widener's Curves, which had been discussed earlier, had failed. An emergency repair had recently been done, and more repairs were anticipated. The cost to replace this portion of the force main system is estimated to be \$1.5 million, with only \$600,000 available in the budget.

Town Engineer Bowser indicated that the Town would need to agree that the study would be endorsed and pursued, in order to proceed with the bond issuance.

Town Manager Elwell, Mr. Brazil, and Mr. Bowser responded to questions and comments from the Committee.

Mr. Brazil discussed other capital improvements that needed to be implemented, other than sanitary, which could also be paid from a bond.

The Committee recommended pursuing the possibility of expediting the sanitary sewer replacement and the consideration of the additional capital improvement program, including the dollar amounts. The Committee also recommended scenario two plus four of the Kimley Horn study for Town Council's consideration.

VII. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the October 5, 2009, the Public Works Committee Meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

APPROVED:



Gail Coniglio
Chair