

MINUTES

City Council Public Works & Utilities Committee

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 – 3:30 PM
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Maurice Jones, Chair, Council Member
Mac Morrow, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Owen Carson, Citizen Member
Mayor Maureen Copelof, Ex-Officio

Staff Present: Wilson Hooper, City Manager
Wesley Shook, Acting Public Works Director
Dennis Richardson, WTP Director
Emory Owen, WWTP Director
Aaron Winans, WWTP Staff
Denise Hodsdon, City Clerk
Becky McCann, Communications Coordinator

Guests: Madeline Magin, 185 King Street

A. Welcome and Call to Order

Committee Chair Maurice Jones called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

B. Introduction of New Committee Member Owen Carson

Mr. Carson was sworn in as the new citizen member of the committee prior to the meeting. Mr. Carson and committee members and staff all introduced themselves.

C. Certification of Quorum

City Clerk Denise Hodsdon certified that a quorum was present.

D. Approval of Agenda

At the request of Mayor Copelof, Mr. Morrow added an item regarding Oakdale Street Sidewalks. Mr. Hooper added an item regarding Wastewater Treatment Plant Update. Motion by Mr. Carson, seconded by Mr. Morrow to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2023 and March 9, 2023 Meetings

Motion by Mr. Morrow, seconded by Mr. Carson to approve the minutes of the

February 1, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Carson, seconded by Mr. Morrow to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Septage Dump Fees

Mr. Hooper informed the committee that the upcoming budget includes funds for the purchase and implementation of a new system for charging haulers to dump their waste at our Wastewater Treatment Plant. We think that this will be a more accurate way of charging users for the service that we provide. We need to do that now because we have limited capacity and need to make sure that we are being appropriately remunerated for the services that we provide. The cost of the new system is \$105,000 and we have budgeted \$175,000 in revenue. Mr. Owen explained that instead of paying a flat fee of \$75 per truckload, the haulers will be charged \$.078 per gallon for domestic septage. He hopes that this new rate system will help offset the increased cost of chemicals. Aaron Winans added that under the new card system, a flow meter will measure the quantity of waste dumped and the card reader will charge the user accordingly. The hauler will also need to provide the address for the waste's point of origin. This will also help us to accurately track capacity needs for plant renovations down the road.

G. Rosman Interconnection

Mr. Hooper explained that we agreed a while ago to allow Rosman to build an interconnection with our drinking water system, so that if they needed it, we could turn on the tap and let them buy water from us temporarily. They have asked the State for the funding to build the interconnection and it is possible that they will start building it in the months to come. We wanted to formalize the arrangement with an Interlocal agreement. Rosman drafted an agreement, which has already been approved and signed by their board. However, Mr. Hooper and City Attorney Mack McKeller want to enhance the agreement by adding some indemnification clauses so that the City of Brevard is held harmless if our water isn't physically and chemically compatible with their system. We also want to set rates; we would be willing to give water to them briefly, but if we are providing it for an extended period, we would need to charge for that so that we are made whole. Finally, we want to add conditions under which we will and will not open the valve for them.

Mr. Richardson expressed a concern about 50,000 to 60,000 gallons of stagnant water sitting in the pipe until they need it. If they need our water, that water will have to be flushed out and the first 50,000 to 60,000 gallons that we would give them will be just replacing the water that has been sitting in that pipe. Mr. Hooper noted that Rosman's request to the state was for \$19M and he hoped that that amount includes money to engineer the interconnection and get a firm to design it and advise the two towns on how to deal with issues like this. He suggested that we should add another clause in the agreement that the interconnection be built

according to certain standards. Mr. Hooper and Attorney McKeller will update the agreement as discussed and bring it back to the committee for review and recommendation to Council.

H. King Street Repaving

Mr. Hooper noted that there have been questions from Councilmembers and the community about the possibility of repaving King and Whitmire Streets where the project was just completed. We got a quote in the amount of \$125,000 to mill and repave the project areas along King St. and Whitmire St. He asked for feedback from the committee whether they wanted to elevate this and choose it over some other possible projects that we would use our Powell Bill funds on, including the streets that are ahead of these on the paving list, with the caveat that the list was made before the project. Or, before the repaving of Main Street, he will ask Council how it feels about having stamped brick crosswalks at the intersection of Main and Broad. With the cost of those crosswalks, we would not be able to do those and the repaving of King and Whitmire with our Powell Bill funds alone.

During discussion, it was noted that King Street is currently fifth on the repaving priority list. Mr. Jones expressed concern about putting King Street ahead of other streets that have been waiting for repaving, but suggested that we reevaluate King Street in its current post-project condition. He also suggested that perhaps the businesses on King Street could raise funds to contribute toward the cost of paving to help move them up on the list.

I. Oakdale Street Sidewalk

Mayor Copelof said that the condition of the Oakdale Street sidewalk has been an issue for quite a while and has been brought up at several Meet the Mayor sessions. We talked about it last year and we decided we needed to have a sidewalk survey done. The survey was completed last June and it rates the condition of the Oakdale Street sidewalk as fair, but many of the ramps are rated as poor. She believes that it has become a safety issue as the street is being used as a thoroughfare for people going from Mary C. Jenkins to the downtown area and the library. She asked the committee to consider looking at it and moving it up on the priority list. Mr. Jones requested that the committee review both the paving and sidewalk priority lists at the next meeting. Mr. Hooper said the estimated cost for the concrete, not including curbs, would be approximately \$12,000 and would require about 80 man hours. Mayor Copelof noted that there are three power poles in the middle of the sidewalk and questioned if it would be possible to move the sidewalk around the poles. Mr. Morrow and Mr. Jones agreed that we do need to make the sidewalk ADA compliant. Staff will provide a more comprehensive cost estimate and possible funding options at the next meeting.

J. Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

Mr. Hooper informed the committee that our \$65M legislative request did not make the House's proposed budget bill as an earmark. Although funding has not been secured, we have started meeting with engineering firms to write the RFQ and help us select another firm to carry out the project. He said the goal is to have this done by the end of the summer.

K. Set Date for Next Meeting

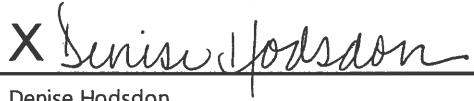
The next regular meeting of the Public Works & Utilities Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

L. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Minutes Approved: May 3, 2023

X 
Maurice Jones
Chair, Council Member

X 
Denise Hodsdon
City Clerk