



CITY COUNCIL

Public Works Committee

Monday, April 21, 2008
Meeting Report

Attendance: M. Goodman-Hinnershitz, Chair; D. Sterner, S. Fuhs

Others Attending: V. Spencer, C. Younger, C. Jones, L. Kelleher, R. Hottenstein

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz, Chair, called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 5 pm.

I. Orange and Cherry St Lot Update

Mr. Jones stated that the existing plan prepared in the late 90's was reviewed. He noted the need to identify available CDBG funding to allow the project to move forward.

Mr. Younger was asked to inquire the owner of the privately owned lots to see if they'd be willing to participate.

Rev. Steve McCracken was asked to contact United Way to inquire about the availability of Seed money or other grants. Ms. Kelleher reminded the group that in the late 90's the Weed and Seed program was not in existence and the United Way's contribution to the project was through other resources.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted the need for proper coordination from the administrative components.

Mr. Jones was asked to contact Bill Vitale of DesignWorks who created the plan in the 1990's to review and update the plan.

Mr. Boykins noted that St. James' Church and surrounding community is planning a clean-up on the lot for May 3. He requested assistance with two abandoned vehicles on the lot. He was asked to provide information about the vehicles to Ms. Kelleher so the removal process could begin

Rev. McCracken stated the church is planning a block party in the fall.

II. Amendment of PARC Ordinance

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz inquired if Public Works had contacted the YMCA, Olivet's/PAL and United Way about their willingness to participate on the PARC. Mr. Jones stated that he was unaware if Mr. Zeiber contacted those parties. He will follow up this week.

Ms. Kelleher suggested inviting the current participants who recently attended a training session on Park and Recreation Commissions to participate in the discussion on the scope of the PARC.

III. Storm Water Management Ordinance

Mr. Jones stated that the ordinance is being finalized by a consultant and should be ready for introduction at the second meeting in May.

IV. Storm Water Utility

Mr. Jones stated that the second phase of this project will determine the fee charged for all City properties based on the amount of impervious surface on the property. Homes will, in general, pay less than commercial properties.

V. Consent Decree

Mr. Jones highlighted the design phase of the Waste Water Treatment Plant contained in the monthly Public Works report. He stated that a meeting with PA DEP is scheduled for next week. Currently a team composed of representatives from two Philadelphia organizations - Mr. Hottenstein, Mr. Jones, Ms. Hoag, and Heather Dunkle are reviewing the RFPs for the project and construction management positions.

There was a brief discussion on processing manure to yield a recyclable and reusable product.

Mr. Fuhs suggested having a local professional firm participate in reviewing and selecting the project and construction manager.

Mr. Spencer requested a copy of the specs for the project and construction management RFP.

Mr. Fuhs noted the effort some companies put into lobbying the members of the Administration as they review RFPs. He inquired how the Administration handles that. Mr. Hottenstein replied that at the end of the day it all comes down to the personal integrity of those in the Administration.

Mr. Fuhs suggested that the selection process be observed by an unbiased observer who can provide some assurance that the proper process was followed.

As no other business was brought forward, the Public Works Committee meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Kelleher, City Clerk