

**PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar**  
**April 24, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

Members Present In-Person: Chair Bryson; Ms. Triem; Ms. Hale

Members Present Via Zoom: Mr. Smith

Staff Members Present: Katie Koester, EPW Director; Denise Koch, EPW Deputy Director; Greg Smith, Contract Administrator; George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director; John Bohan, Chief CIP Engineer; Patty Wahto, Airport Manager; and Breckan Hendricks, EPW Admin Officer.

**II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Ms. Triem read the City & Borough of Juneau Land Acknowledgement.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - No changes or comments.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

- A. April 3, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes  
No comments or changes, minutes approved.

**V. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

- a. Ordinance Transferring \$7,026,038 to the Crisis Stabilization Capital Improvement Project (CIP)

1. Update on Emergency Department (ED) Addition Project

Ms. Koester briefly summarized the ordinance transferring revenue bond proceeds from the Emergency Department Addition CIP to the Behavioral Health CIP. The bond funds will replace hospital operating funds previously appropriated to the project.

Ms. Koester explained the memo included in the packet details the decision by the hospital board to indefinitely delay the ED addition project and support deappropriation of the funds to be used for fund balance. She explained there are still needs for improvement and expansion in the ED. Bartlett has identified priorities and will seek grant and other funding to address those needs.

Mr. Bryson asked if the plans for the mental health facility have been finalized. Ms. Koester answered the behavioral health clinic will have an additional floor. Other changes include moving from wooden to steel framing, increased capacity, and more clinic space. All of the changes caused cost escalations which will be addressed in the requested funds transfer in item d below. They have reached the point that there can be no more changes made to the design of the project.

Ms. Triem Moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee recommend for approval at the full Assembly the transfer of \$7,026,038 to the Crisis Stabilization Capital Improvement Project (CIP) and that the memos be included and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

- b. Funds Transfer to Pavement Management Capital Improvement Project (CIP)  
Ms. Koester explained the request to transfer \$75,000 from the Areawide Drainage fund to the Pavement Management CIP to replace the culverts on Montana Creek Road from Back Loop to the intersection with Arctic Circle.

Mr. Bryson asked why they would replace metal culvert with plastic. Mr. Bohan explained plastic culverts are the accepted industry standard and have a longer lifespan than metal.

Ms. Hale Moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee recommend for approval at the full Assembly the transfer of \$75,000 from the Areawide Drainage fund to the Pavement Management CIP and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

- c. Resolution of Support for EV Charging Infrastructure Grant  
Ms. Koester explained the Juneau Commission on Sustainability has identified an opportunity for grant funding to increase EV charging in the community.

The grant application is due by the end of May. The CBJ request would outline a two-pronged strategy to provide a grants for strategic planning and installation of fast charging stations in the community.

Mr. Smith asked if this would be in addition to or part of the \$1,000,000 already budgeted in the CIP. Ms. Koester said that could depend on the timing of the required match but that the department would work to include the funding and match requirements in the budget process whenever possible.

Mr. Bryson asked that there be a plan developed for EV vehicles and batteries as they reach end of life. Ms. Koester pointed out that this is addressed within the resolution.

Mr. Smith Moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee forward the resolution to the full Assembly for consideration and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

- d. Funds Transfer to BRH Behavioral Health Facility Capital Improvement (CIP)  
Ms. Koester explained there is a need for \$200,000 more in funding for this CIP to finish the Behavioral Health Facility. Substantial completion will be reached in May.

Ms. Triem Moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee recommend for approval at the full Assembly the transfer of \$200,000 to the Behavioral Health Facility Capital Improvement (CIP) and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

## VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

### a. Talkin' Trash: Summary and Next Steps Trash: Equipment Solutions

Ms. Koch briefly summarized the Talkin' Trash meeting held on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The current landfill has an estimated 20 years of life left. Options for considerations included building a transfer station, expanding the landfill, building a new landfill, building an incinerator, expanding recycling, or exercising certain regulatory options. She suggested a waste characterization study would be helpful in identifying solutions.

Ms. Triem asked if the timeline for a waste characterization study would be different if it was included in the budget process rather than waiting for the congressionally directed spending. Ms. Koester said including it in the budget would be time well spent but is not necessary to get the project started.

Ms. Hale asked if CBJ has discussed with Alaska Waste regarding contracting with them to haul the garbage in the case that the city takes over ownership of the landfill. Ms. Koch said they have not yet brought this to Alaska Waste. Ms. Koester felt that it could be mutually beneficial for the city and for Alaska Waste if done correctly.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Bryson expressed opinions that there is no harm in waiting for the grant funds and using that to cover the cost of the waste characterization study. Ms. Hale expressed a desire to fund the study now rather than waiting. She explained that with upcoming turnover in the assembly, pushing it off now could result in no action being taken for longer than is currently anticipated.

Ms. Triem asked if there could be more than one certificate of convenience in the community. Ms. Koch explained possible scenarios include CBJ purchasing the certificate, obtaining the certificate through eminent domain, and obtaining a certificate from the RCA.

Ms. Hale asked if the city would be providing information to the public to improve participation in the recycling programs. Ms. Koch said there is information on the CBJ RecycleWorks web page and on the Alaska Waste page but there could be more outreach to educate people regarding what is acceptable in curbside recycling containers.

Ms. Hale asked whether building a new landfill was being considered. Ms. Koch explained the topic had come up but did not seem to have much support.

### b. Juneau North Douglas Crossing Update

Ms. Koester gave a synopsis of the current status of the ADOT Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) project. She explained there are several locations under consideration for the crossing. This first level of screening focused on identifying viable locations. The second level will start taking into consideration costs of one location compared to another. Ms. Koester explained the importance of public input in these topics and suggested there are 4 proposed dates in May for public comment. (May 9, 11, 15, and 18)

Mr. Bryson asked if the comments from the first townhall qualified for the PEL process and whether a second one would also qualify. If it does not qualify, he wondered if the comments would hold the same weight as those from the first meeting. Ms. Koch explained the difference would be in how the comments are documented and logged into the project documentation.

**VII. PWFC 2023 ASSEMBLY GOALS**

See page 36 in the packet

**VIII. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT**

a. March 29, 2023 – April 20, 2023

Ms. Koester directed the members to the memo on pages 37-39 in the packet.

**IX. NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next Regular Meeting will be May 22, 2023 - Regular Meeting

Prior to adjournment, Ms. Koester introduced Ashley Heimbigner as the newly appointed Grants Manager for the Department.

**X. ADJOURNMENT -**

Having no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:08 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134* 