

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar
June 5, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:13 PM.

Members Present: Chair Bryson; Ms. Triem; Ms. Hale; Mr. Smith

Staff Members Present: Katie Koester, EPW Director; Denise Koch, EPW Deputy Director; Greg Smith, Contract Administrator; and Breckan Hendricks, EPW Admin Officer.

Other CBJ Attendees: Rorie Watt, City Manager; Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager; Beth Weldon, Mayor; Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Assembly Member (via Zoom)

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 24, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- No comments or changes, minutes approved.

V. ITEMS FOR ACTION

- a. Fund Transfer to Parking Garage Security Cameras Capital Improvement Project (CIP) P48-089

Director Koester presented the proposed transfer of funds from Downtown Parking Management CIP to Parking Garage Security Cameras CIP to complete installation of cameras in the stairwell and elevators at the downtown transit center.

Ms. Triem moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee recommend for approval at the full Assembly the transfer of \$43,000 to the Parking Garage Security Cameras Capital Improvement Project (CIP) P48-089 and asked for unanimous consent.

No objection, motion passed.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. New Landfill Site Selection Report Summary

Deputy Director Koch presented a summary of the work that CBJ has done in researching possible sites for a new landfill. This is an ongoing project that has been in process for about 30 years. The conclusion was that Upper Lemon Creek was the preferred location. The estimated cost was a little over \$6,000,000. This is no longer considered an accurate amount due to the time that has passed and regulation changes.

M. Hale – Acknowledging the work that has been completed thus far and comparing it to what has been done in Whitehorse, what is the status of this project?

D. Koch – Whitehorse has increased focus on a ‘zero waste’ perspective. Zero waste is about diversion, composting, recycling and other activities to keep items from reaching the landfill.

K. Koester – We have been looking at zero waste and other options and agree that there needs to be a plan in place. Currently, the department is pursuing grant funding opportunities to help meet those goals. We plan to have an update ready to bring to the next committee meeting.

W. Bryson – How much public participation has been included in either the 2008 or 2015 processes?

D. Koch - They 2008 report references some public participation but is unclear how much. The other reports do not mention public participation.

G. Smith – Given that sites have been identified as possible new landfill locations, is the city doing anything to reserve those sites specifically for a landfill?

D. Koch – The 1993 study was never approved by the Assembly. Therefore, it is not included in the Comprehensive Plans.

b. Recycling: Equipment Solutions

Director Koester presented an update of CBJ recycling activities. They have been working with CBJ PIO on public outreach and education on recycling. They are launching a campaign today with Facebook posts regarding glass and other recycling options. In particular, there is a need to inform the public on exactly what can and cannot be recycled.

The department is looking at waste diversion options including large scale composting and stump debris removal. Other options include recycling plastics into products like bricks and park benches. There is also the possibility of recycling household appliances once the refrigerant has been removed.

The department is looking for direction from the PWFC as to what they want to see done.

W. Bryson – We need to encourage public participation. Currently, about 11% of the public participates in recycling. If we are able to use the plastics to create items the public can appreciate, then we could have more participation. If we can increase morale by turning waste into something positive (new benches at all public parks, for example) then more people would be willing to make the effort to participate.

M. Hale – The Solid Waste Training Institute will be in Juneau giving a demo of their equipment the first week of July. If they are coming here to make a presentation, the PWFC should attend.

Ms. Hale moved that Public Works and Facilities Committee recommend Staff advance refrigerant appliance disposal forward.

No objection, motion passed.

c. EPW Grant Strategy Update

Director Koester presented an update of the status of grants planned or recently submitted by Grants Manager Ashley Heimburger. The department has applied for several grants and expect to know in coming months whether they have been awarded. Two earlier grant submissions were not awarded but we will reapply in the coming year.

Projects seeking grant funding include Juneau/Douglas North Crossing; bridge replacement, road safety improvements, waste diversion and reduction projects, and EV vehicles and others.

G. Smith – Can you give an update on the activities in the Vintage Park area?

K. Koester – That project would rehabilitate Clinton Boulevard and Vintage Park. With all the new development in that area, there is an increase in pedestrian activity. There is a need to upgrade the pedestrian access there.

A. Hughes-Skandijs – Is it better to limit the funding requests just to those projects already on the CIP list or is there value in seeking grants for aspirational projects as well? Also, if there are things the assembly can do to assist the department, what are they? If there is a need, please let the assembly know.

K. Koester – The legislative priority process has developed to be forward thinking rather than simply replacements. The department has been fortunate to have the assembly establish and fund priorities.

VII. PWFC 2023 ASSEMBLY GOALS

a. PWFC Milestones for 2023 Assembly Goals

K. Koester – nothing to add beyond what has already been addressed in this meeting.

VIII. CONTRACTS DIVISION ACTIVITY REPORT

a. April 21, 2023 – May 30, 2023 – No update

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Regular Meeting will be June 26, 2023

X. ADJOURNMENT -

Having no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 PM.

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