

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

5:00 P.M., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2011

COMMITTEE ROOM

ROOM 239, CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Mayor Allen Joines*
 Council Member Robert C. Clark, Chair
 Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery, Vice Chair
 Council Member Denise D. Adams
 Council Member Dan Besse

OTHERS PRESENT: *Council Member Molly Leight*
 Council Member James Taylor, Jr. (in at 5:25 p.m.)

Chair Clark called the meeting to order and stated that without objection, the Committee would first consider the Consent Agenda and asked if any items needed to be removed for discussion.

Council Member Adams requested to pull Item C-4. Chair Clark requested to pull Items C-6(a) and C-7. No other items were removed for discussion.

Council Member Montgomery made a motion to approve the balance of the Consent Agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Adams and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH HDR ENGINEERING OF THE CAROLINAS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR STORMWATER MASTERPLAN UPDATES OF THE UPPER AND LOWER SILAS CREEK AND LOWER SALEM CREEK WATERSHEDS - \$856,400.
- C-2. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH PARK STORMWATER PROJECT:
 - a. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH HDR ENGINEERING OF THE CAROLINAS, INC. TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION PHASE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH PARK STORMWATER PROJECT - \$714,400.

- b. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH STIMMEL ASSOCIATES, PA TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION PHASE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH PARK STORMWATER PROJECT - \$40,000.

- C-3. RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY PARTICIPATION IN A DRAINAGE PROJECT ACROSS PRIVATE PROPERTY ACCORDING TO SECTION 75-35 OF THE CITY CODE - 855 and 917 Woodcote Drive.

- C-5. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DRIVEWAY PROJECT AT N.C. HIGHWAY 8 (GERMANTON ROAD).

- C-6. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS:
 - b. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY (EAST WARD) - *Petition of WSSU*.

- C-8. CITIZENS' BASEBALL STADIUM REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL.

- C-9. MONTHLY REPORT ON ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROJECTS UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT.

- C-10. WINSTON-SALEM/FORYTH COUNTY UTILITY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010.

- C-11. CITY/COUNTY UTILITY COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- C-12. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF MINUTES - *December 14, 2010*.

- C-4. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO A STATE SMALL CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:
 - a. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A STATE SMALL CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

 - b. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011.

Mr. Gregory M. Turner, Assistant City Manager/Public Works, stated that this item will authorize the installation of pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Bethabara Park Road and Northpoint Boulevard. The improvements will include traffic pedestrian signals and markings to enhance visibility of the pedestrian crosswalk, in a coordinated project between the City and the

North Carolina Department of Transportation, and the project was identified through the City's Safety Improvement Program.

Council Member Adams made a motion for approval of the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Besse and carried unanimously.

C-6. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS:

- a. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH DUKE ENERGY (EAST WARD) - *Petition of Duke Energy.*

Chair Clark noted that this item refers to the movement of some equipment from the roof of a building to the sidewalk and expressed some concern about safety and blocking the sidewalk.

Mr. Jimmy Flythe, Duke Energy, noted that the transformers have been located on the roof for some time and are difficult to maintain. Duke Energy representatives have met with staff to address safety concerns and indicated that fencing will be placed around the transformers to keep people from hiding in and around them for their own safety. He also noted that drains will be reset as needed to meet sidewalk requirements.

In response to Chair Clark's question, Mr. Turner stated that the sidewalk is five feet wide.

In response to Chair Clark's inquiry, Mr. Flythe provided photos of the fencing that will be used and a Duke Energy staff member provided a sample portion of the fencing, which will be black, six foot tall, ornamental steel.

Council Member Adams noted that there is a section of fencing, similar to the sample shown, on University Parkway near Coliseum Drive, on the left-hand side that is missing and needs to be replaced.

Council Member Besse made a motion for approval of the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Adams and carried unanimously.

C-7. NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SNOW REMOVAL REPORT.

Chair Clark noted that he received specific complaints along Robinhood Road regarding snow removal where it appears the City's removal efforts ended and the State's was to resume.

Mr. Turner stated that by the end of the snow removal process, staff feels the State did a good job. He also stated that the State was focused on other roads that the City traditionally would have addressed sooner and the expectation of citizens were different than what was being done.

Chair Clark questioned if staff had communicated to the State on areas where it appeared they were more lax in snow removal efforts.

Mr. Turner indicated that staff communicated to the State regularly and throughout the events.

Council Member Leight expressed congratulations to the City's snow crews.

In response to Council Member Besse's questions, Mr. Turner stated that the State was able to sufficiently clear the streets by the end of each snow event. While their snow removal efforts may differ from the City's, in the end, they did a sufficient job. The State may have felt certain streets were of higher priority and focused on major roads at a different time than the City may have.

Council Member Adams noted that she thought the City did a good job and thought it was well communicated that the State would maintain State roads. She questioned if there was any way to identify streets so citizens may know which roads are State or City maintained to further educate them.

GENERAL AGENDA

- G-1. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH PARKWAY IN THE PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH PARK:
- a. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH PARK TO CONSTRUCT RESEARCH PARKWAY.
 - b. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION AND TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011.
 - c. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011.

Mr. Turner noted that Mr. Doug Edgeton with the Piedmont Triad Research Park (PTRP) would give the presentation. He also noted that this item combines two projects that the City and the PTRP are working on together: the road construction of Research Parkway and the stormwater project. He further noted that staff meets with PTRP representatives each month and recently determined that combining the projects would be beneficial to make more efficient use of the dirt moving activity and to reduce the cost, confusion and liability issues. PTRP will still be responsible for the financial cost of the road and the City will handle construction of both projects.

Mr. Edgeton, 4441 Bent Tree Farm Road, gave the presentation.

Council Member Taylor in at 5:25 p.m.

Council Member Adams made a motion to approve the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Montgomery and carried unanimously.

Chair Clark stated that the Committee would consider Item G-2 last as it would probably take the most time and discussion and would consider Item G-3 at this time.

G-3. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CURBSIDE RECYCLING, DROP-OFF SITES, AND WINSTON-SALEM FORSYTH COUNTY SCHOOLS (REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE). *[Item continued from the January meeting of the Public Works Committee.]*

Mr. Johnnie Taylor, Sanitation Director, indicated that this request for proposal (RFP) is geared toward the Committee's previous approval for a bi-weekly, single stream recycling option. Staff will consider proposals received from those entities interested in participating in a recycling contract. The current contract is valid through April 2012. Interested parties are being asked to submit information regarding their ability to service the contract on a bi-weekly basis with a single stream option, as well as alternative options, the potential for increased revenue, any feedback, options for commodities, other technologies, and other items to recycle that the City does not currently process. Staff hopes to negotiate any potential proposals and provide options to Council before the end of the Fiscal Year.

In response to Council Member Adams' questions, Mr. Taylor stated that the current contractor has been in place for the last 15 years at the end of this term. There are between five and ten businesses in the state that qualify to supply these services. He also stated that Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, and Durham have moved to a bi-weekly collection process. He further stated that staff has seen great results in the quantity of recyclables since placing the larger containers in the pilot communities.

Chair Clark requested to know the potential savings compared to the cost of the carts based upon what other cities have done.

Council Member Besse noted that the neighborhood in his ward participating in the pilot project appreciates this alternative.

Council Member Adams made a motion for approval of the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Besse and carried unanimously.

Chair Clark noted that the Ardmore Fire Station has three, eight cubic foot cardboard bins which always appear to be full and requested that the collection schedule be altered to dump them more often. He also noted that he sees a huge potential for a construction and demolition (C&D) landfill based upon recycling rates as a large percentage of C&D waste can be recycled.

Mr. Turner noted that the next landfill site identified has the capacity for recycling but the current facility does not. He also noted that the activity relative to a C&D landfill at the present time is so low that staff does not see a justification to move to the next site at this point.

In response to Chair Clark's question, Mr. Turner stated that at the current rate, the City will utilize the Old Salisbury Road landfill site at least another ten years and if there was a significant upturn in activity, then it might be possible to activate the new facility.

G-2. REPORT BY R.W. BECK REGARDING THE WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH COUNTY SOLID WASTE STUDY. *[Item continued from the January meeting of the Public Works Committee.]*

Mr. Turner noted that Committee Members received an executive summary of the report and the full report would be provided to them as well. He also noted that during the Strategic Planning meeting, there was some comment and concern regarding alternative disposal technologies and the consultant was asked to evaluate the viability of those alternatives and found that the City's financial condition did not lend itself to those alternatives at this time, but there may be some options in the future as new technologies develop.

Chair Clark stated that Committee Members would hear today's report and absorb the information as they may be making some very important decisions in this area. In 1976, the community formed a committee and it has served the City well to ensure citizens have clean water and a functional sewer system for many years at reasonable rates. The City now finds itself at a similar crossroads in how to handle its solid waste.

Ms. Abby Goldsmith, Project Manager for R.W. Beck in Atlanta, Georgia, gave the presentation on the study of best practices of the Solid Waste Management System.

Mr. Gus Preschle, Clemmons, representing the Sierra Club, expressed his appreciation to staff for hiring a consultant to help address this matter, especially one as respected as R.W. Beck. He noted that he is a volunteer construction supervisor at Habitat for Humanity and urged the Council to look at page five in the presentation, specifically at the reduction of state and local waste reduction. He outlined several of the Sierra Club's best practices and noted that other cities and nations are already heading in those directions and he urged the Council to look at ways to reduce the City's waste. He referenced his personal experience while working with Habitat for Humanity on a construction project when they were able to send their construction waste out of town to a C&D landfill and were able to recycle 50% of their waste. Within North Carolina, other cities are dealing with similar waste disposal issues. He further noted that the Town of Greenville and Duke University are considering a lottery that individuals may sign up for that will award more recycling to help spread the word and increase participation.

Chair Clark requested that staff distribute copies of Mr. Preschle's information to Council Members.

Mayor Joines thanked Ms. Goldsmith for her report and asked for further comment regarding the creation of advisory committees and how other communities created committees, how they are organized and what government organizations are involved.

Ms. Goldsmith stated that she worked with Orange County and various organizations within its county were involved. She also stated that ideally, you would want individuals with a finance and public works background, approximately 30 people, maybe a resource group, such as callers and technical support and a policy setting group of approximately 10 to 15 individuals with a finance and solid waste background.

In response to Council Member Besse's questions, Ms. Goldsmith indicated that she separated the need to find a sustainable funding source for disposal facilities and non-disposal programs because it is harder to find funding sources for non-disposal programs. Most communities fund disposal operations with tipping fees at the facility but other things not directly associated with managing a disposal facility are typically funded through some other source. She noted that in Buford County, South Carolina, residents pay for disposal as part of their property tax and when the hauler who

collects from them goes to the landfill, they get free disposal. Regarding the inability to fully address the evaluation of new technologies, she indicated that consistency seems to be an issue County-wide and that the City and County would benefit from participating in the same programs.

Council Member Besse requested to know why Ms. Goldsmith rated the City as unlikely to fully address the challenge of locating a sustainable funding source for disposal facilities.

Council Member Besse clarified that if there isn't a joint valuation, then it is unlikely multiple entities will derive the same goals. If the City did not cooperate, then there wouldn't be a joint study and it would have to be set up as an independent measure in order to avoid the problem Ms. Goldsmith is addressing.

Ms. Goldsmith noted even if the City never participated in a study or participated with three other municipalities in an RFP to handle all waste, consistency could still be achieved.

In response to Council Member Leight's question, Ms. Goldsmith stated that the details in the report on solid waste authorities will offer some clarity on how they are created but it is different from the advisory committee. An authority would be created and the voting members would be established via a resolution. Many times, the local governing authority makes the decisions but North Carolina statutes are very specific and stipulate how regional solid waste authorities are to be created and what powers they may have.

Council Member Taylor noted that the City was previously presented with alternative disposal options and indicated that he was hoping this study would shed some light on whether or not those options would be viable for the City to pursue. He expressed concern that the previously indicated financial situation of the City may leave it in a position that it may not be able to participate in alternative solid waste disposal options.

Chair Clark requested that all Council Members receive a hard copy of the full report and the alternative disposals report. He also requested a matrix of the other incorporated communities as far as their recycling and solid waste procedures, considering the Utility Commission is run with input from the County and City. Regarding the RFPs on commercial recycling, he requested that staff ensure the proposals include capacity and whether or not they can handle a larger stream. He questioned if staff has considered this as a method for small businesses to recycle, or if non-profits could receive a reduced rate, as this would provide a method to capture more recyclables. He requested to know the current useful life of the Hanes Mill Road landfill and the C&D landfill. He expressed concern that if staff waits to utilize C&D recycling until a new landfill is completed, a recycling opportunity may be missed. He also requested information from Mr. Preschle about the information and recommendations he presented on recycling. Chair Clark noted that Greensboro closed its public landfill and is now looking to reopen and is curious to know why it is interested in reopening the site. In regards to Council Member Taylor's question about alternative disposal options, he noted that the City will need to determine its priority or ultimate goal as far as solid waste is concerned. Whether it would be to minimize what is put in the ground, what is released into the air or to minimize cost, the ultimate outcome needs to be determined to figure out the best solution. He questioned if there were any towns or communities similar to the City's size that have seriously considered alternative solid waste disposal options.

Ms. Goldsmith stated that there are some big disposal facilities in small communities that had the

intention of becoming regional facilities. Most of these facilities were intending to pull out recyclable materials and compost the remains and for various reasons, they did not work. In larger communities, such as Los Angeles, there are more funding sources and laws requiring that the community has a specified period of time in which to reduce its waste by a certain amount, in addition to larger tipping fees. In response to Chair Clark's question, an RFP would yield a return based upon how tight the requirements are stated.

In response to Council Member Leight's inquiry, Ms. Goldsmith indicated that the report does address yard waste composting, but it is not included in further detail as a separate collection of organics because it was not an area of interest when R.W. Beck representatives initially spoke with City.

In response to Council Member Montgomery's question, Ms. Goldsmith stated that alternative waste disposal options will not be rated based upon viability but recommendations are provided should the City decide to pursue those options.

Chair Clark suggested that Committee Members read the report in its entirety once they receive the hard copies to prepare for further discussions.

Mr. Turner indicated that staff will provide the requested information to all Council Members and answer any additional questions.

Chair Clark stated that this item will come back to the Committee in April and asked that staff reach out to the County Commissioners to see if they have additional questions.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:49 p.m.