

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES

### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

5:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2011

COMMITTEE ROOM

Room 239, City Hall

---

*MEMBERS PRESENT:* Council Member Derwin L. Montgomery, Vice Chair  
Council Member Denise D. Adams  
Council Member Dan Besse

*MEMBER ABSENT:* Council Member Robert C. Clark, Chair

Vice Chair Montgomery called the meeting to order.

Vice Chair Montgomery stated that the Committee would first consider the Consent Agenda and asked if anyone wished to remove any items for discussion. No items were removed.

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

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS OF EASEMENTS RELATED TO THE MUDDY CREEK GREENWAY. [*Donated by Brooks Landing Homeowners Association, Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc., and Lantern Ridge Association, Inc.*]
- C-2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEEDS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM FOR PROPERTY ADJACENT TO CIVIC PLAZA.
- C-3. RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT FOR GRIFFITH ENTERPRISES TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR CITY PROJECTS INVOLVING SOIL AND GROUNDWATER ISSUES.
- C-4. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.
- C-5. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF MINUTES - *October 11, 2011.*

GENERAL AGENDA

- G-1. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL WORK ASSOCIATED WITH PROJECT A - BATH BRANCH/PTRP STORM WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITY, AND PROJECT B - RESEARCH PARK BOULEVARD - *Blythe Construction, Inc.* - \$360,000.

Assistant City Manager Gregory M. Turner presented the staff report on this item.

Vice Chair Adams asked who is financially responsible for the additional cost associated with the change order.

Mr. Turner advised that it will be shared by the City Stormwater Fund and the Piedmont Triad Research Park. In response to Chair Besse, Mr. Turner stated that there will be no need to transfer funds from the General Fund to handle the City's portion.

Vice Chair Adams made a motion for approval. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Besse and unanimously carried.

- G-2. PRESENTATION AND RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESIGN GUIDELINES FROM THE CREATIVE CORRIDORS COALITION.

Mr. Randall Tuttle, 635 Trade Street, spoke on behalf of the Creative Corridors Coalition and presented copies of the Master Plan and Design Guidelines. He explained that there were five sections to the Master Plan and Design Guidelines which encompassed project boundaries, diagnostics and emphasis zones, landscape and illustrative plans, technical and engineering designs, and governance. Mr. Tuttle highlighted portions of each of these sections and advised that discussions are on-going regarding where this project will be housed and administered. He also stated that preliminary responses from the North Carolina Department of Transportation are very positive and has been referred to as a "North Carolina project," which is a positive sign for State financial participation.

Vice Chair Montgomery thanked the members of the Creative Corridors Coalition for their extensive work on this project and noted that it was truly a cooperative effort by a diverse group of people.

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

- G-3. PRESENTATION ON THE PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM REVIEW.

Deputy Budget Director Ben Rowe made the presentation on this item. He stated that since all Council Members were present at yesterday's Finance Committee meeting and heard the detailed presentation, he would give an abbreviated version to the Public Works Committee. Mr. Rowe

advised that projections are that reserves in the Mass Transit Tax fund will be depleted by the end of this fiscal year. There are also questions as to how long federal and State funding will be available. He reviewed several options such as increasing fares and providing Sunday service on selected routes to gain ridership.

Council Member Besse noted that Winston-Salem has one of the lowest service levels of any other city in North Carolina, particularly with regard to frequency of service, and one of the lowest ridership levels per capita. He stated that any city's services depend upon general tax subsidies, and in Winston-Salem, street maintenance is subsidized at a higher rate than transit service, just as an example. Council Member Besse expressed his opinion that the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) moving to a more secure financial situation cannot be accomplished with fare increases. As politically unpopular as it may be, he stated that in order for Winston-Salem to offer what he considers a basic service for a city – mass transit – the Council will have to seriously consider an increase in general fund support. Council Member Besse stated that he could not look favorably upon fare increases; rather, he would support increasing general fund support for WSTA.

Council Member Adams commented that it may be helpful to seek advice from cities throughout the country to determine if their success in transit might be successful for Winston-Salem as well. She stated that she believed more work could be done to establish partnerships with educational, commercial, and medical facilities and develop creative concepts for encouraging mass transit seven days a week.

Vice Chair Montgomery stated that he agreed that mass transit is vital to this community. He expressed his appreciation for the recommendations of a PILOT program and Sunday service, and he asked staff to look at university subsidized routes similar to Greensboro's service.

Council Member Besse remarked that the City needs to work harder at attracting discretionary ridership.

Vice Chair Montgomery stated that no action is requested by the Committee at this time. This report is therefore accepted as information.

ADJOURNMENT: 5:42 p.m.