

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, June 13, 2024 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by the Chair.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Nicole Renzulli
Councilman John P. Donegan
Councilman Richard D. Campopiano
Councilman Daniel Wall
Council Vice-President Lammis J. Vargas, Chair
Council President Jessica M. Marino, Ex-Officio

Absent: Councilman Robert J. Ferri
Councilwoman Kristen E. Haroian, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Anthony Moretti, Chief of Staff
John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
Justin Mateus, Acting Public Works Director
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Heather Finger, Stenographer

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Approval of minutes of the May 16, 2024 2024 Regular meeting**

On motion by Councilman Wall, seconded by Councilwoman Renzulli, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the May 16, 2024 meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER

Council President Marino:

- ***Discussion regarding the Status of the citywide bridge and culvert inspections performed by Pare Corporation, including the report, its findings and plans (Cont. from 5/16/2024).***

Council President Marino stated that she still has not received list of 26 or however many there is of bridges and culverts that have been inspected despite having this discussion at the last public meeting. Director Mateus clarified that there are 14 structures and he will provide that list immediately. He stated that not much has changed since last time. Since they have started the work, they have reported two critical items that needed some follow-up attention. First of which is the Kimberly Lane bridge where Public Works went out and did some temporary repairs to extend the lifespan of that structure. The second is on the Dean St. bridge where we are going to be needing to support that structure temporarily until a load rating can be determined for that structure. Of the 14 structures, we have identified two that needed immediate work to buy us some time before permanent repair.

Council President Marino stated that she would appreciate if that list could be sent. She has asked for it multiple times and was given assurance a month ago that the City Council was going to have it and as she sits here, they do not. She also stated that Director Moretti made that representation so she would appreciate that being sent out to all the City Council members.

- ***Flooding events from September to current throughout the City; status of FEMA, State and other assistance; remediation and mitigation efforts (Cont. from 5/16/2024).***

Council President Marino stated that she understands from the last meeting, FEMA relief for the March or January storms, that period has closed. She asked if that is correct. Director Mateus stated that he believes it has but is hesitant to say for sure.

Council President Marino stated that putting this on the agenda as a continued item is for both the public and the Administration to address this issue because it is an ongoing issue with the climate change, with the heavy rainfall and need for remediation and mitigation and relief. She asked Director Mateus if there is anything he thinks is vital to this topic, it is a good opportunity to provide that update to the Council and the public. Director Mateus stated that nothing specific related to the FEMA reimbursement. The City is pursuing various stormwater Grants for projects throughout the City. It is something that Public Works is working on actively. Council President Marino stated that in terms of the mitigation efforts, complaints that the Council receives is residents complain that different areas are covered with debris and the need to clean out those areas. She asked if there is a coordinated effort to clean out the debris from those areas or is it just based on receipt of complaints or is there an actual schedule for some of those prone areas. Director Mateus stated that the stuff after the storm has taken place is primarily driven based on complaints from the residents. We do go out before the storm and try to do some proactive maintenance to mitigate the impacts we are going to get throughout the storm, but that reactive cleanup is primarily constituent complaints based. Council President Marino stated that she did receive some complaints in the area of Mayfield Ave. of some type of tributary issue there where there is debris and that was a recent follow-up in May and they had complained in April. She asked if that area has been resolved. Director Mateus stated that he does not know, but he can check on that. Council President Marino asked Director Mateus to look into that and follow-up with an email to her so she can know the status.

Council Vice-President Vargas:

- ***Overnight Parking of Trailers on Broad Street; “No Overnight Parking” signage (Cont. from 5/16/2024).***

Director Moretti stated that the signs for the ‘No Parking’ have been received and are going to be installed early next week. This is a Police matter and last evening four violations were cited. Police are going to continue to monitor that area in terms of enforcement.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VI. NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

PETITION of Narragansett Electric for relocation of pole on Highland St.

On motion by Councilman Campopiano, seconded by Councilman Wall, it was voted to approve the above request. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees