



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, June 3, 2004
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Broderick, Dacey, Holland, Ongerth, Perry, Prevo, Shumer, St. John

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointment

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Sharpe, 2663 Le Conte Avenue, handed out a memo regarding the posting of notices about the Foothill Bridge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A note of appreciation was read from outgoing Commissioner John Piercy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 4, 2004 Regular Meeting: The changes submitted by the Secretary, plus an additional one in the following line: replace "hostel" with "La Loma housing unit" were approved (MSC Perry/Shumer, with Ongerth abstaining).

April 29, 2004 Public Hearing: The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC Perry/Dacey, with Ongerth abstaining).

May 6, 2004 Regular Meeting: Corrections were made as follows:

Action Item 1, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence, replace with: "It was felt that an analysis of the input from other commissions and from the public was not needed, and a recommendation could proceed."

Action Item 1, 3rd paragraph, 4th sentence: replace with: "The consensus of the Commission, with the exception of one Commissioner..."

The minutes as amended were adopted (MSC Perry/Shumer).

May 13, 2004 Special Meeting: Under Call to Order, a correction was made to indicate that Commissioner Dacey was present. The amended minutes were adopted (MSC Dacey/Prevo, with Ongerth abstaining).

ACTION ITEM: Street Repair Program: Update of 5-Year Paving plan

Engineering staff Kenneth Emeziem and Wendy Wong presented the annual update to the 5-Year Paving Plan. They explained that the budget cuts have caused many streets to be deferred to the following years, as shown on the handouts. For the benefit of new commissioners, staff proceeded to give a brief explanation of how Berkeley's system works, based on the Pavement Management System (PMS), as amended by criteria developed by the Public Works Commission. It was noted that the Council, by resolution many years ago, has requested this Commission to submit an update each year. Staff was requested to come back at a future meeting with a full-blown presentation. The annual update was approved (MSC Shumer/Perry).

INFORMATION ITEM: Foothill Bridge – Recommendation on Conditional Permit

The draft council report, together with the "Analysis" and Overview" exhibits were discussed and generally considered to be acceptable. It was agreed that the commission should consider a broader agenda of issues than the staff necessarily does. Various Commissioners suggested several minor editorial changes. Commissioner Dacey emphasized that the application does not meet the law and must be denied. Commissioner Prevo emphasized that she had thoroughly researched the original EIR and other CEQA documents and Department of Justice documents on ADA. Commissioner Ongerth emphasized that, since he is new on the Commission and this is his first meeting, he will need some more time to deliberate. Commissioner Perry indicated that she needs time to develop a dissenting opinion, or minority report.

The timing for the commission's report to the council was then discussed and whether the commission report should precede or follow the staff report. It was decided that there is no benefit to waiting, and agreed that a special meeting would be set for Monday, June 7, 2004 to take action on the recommendation. Commissioners Ongerth and Perry indicated that this was sufficient time to complete their efforts.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

1. Street Light Standards (including maintenance)
2. Recommendation of Street Cleaning Program
3. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
4. Public Works Commission Work Plan
5. Staff response to PWC 5/2004 recommendation on Upper Sewer Laterals and Nonconforming Storm Drain System (7/2004)
6. Demonstration of New Street Cleaning Equipment

ADJOURNMENT: 9:45 p.m.