



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, July 1, 2004

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Dacey, Holland, Ongerth, Perry, Prevo, Shumer

Absent: Commissioner Broderick, St. John

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointment

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commission Chair St. John is absent from this meeting due to a sudden death in her family.

Commissioner Perry announced that she has taken a position of Aide to Councilmember Hawley for the duration until the fall elections.

Secretary Egeberg shared the Commission Attendance Report for the first half of 2004, which is being submitted to the City Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 3, 2004 Regular Meeting: The minutes of the May 6, 2004 meeting should be changed, under Action Item 1, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence, to read: "Commissioner Perry felt that an analysis..." The minutes, as amended, were adopted (MSC Perry/Prevo).

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

To request meeting materials in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, real-time captioning or other accommodation for the meeting, call 981-6406 (voice) or 981-6903 (TDD) as soon as possible. Providing at least five (working) days' notice will help to ensure availability at the meeting.

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June 7, 2004 Special Meeting: The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC Dacey/Perry).

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Binder: An outline of the proposed contents of the binder was reviewed. The secretary reported that staff has almost completed compiling all of the material. The advantages (mainly for material that is continually updated) and drawbacks of referring to websites for certain information were discussed. It was suggested that the Subcommittee (Commissioners Broderick, Perry, Prevo) could review it ahead of time in the Engineering offices. It is planned for action on the agenda of the next meeting in September.

2. Review of Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Liaisons; Discussion of Workplan: Commissioner Dacey was designated as the liaison to the Solid Waste Commission. The Secretary was requested to inform the Transportation Commission that Commissioner Holland has replaced Commissioner Campbell as its liaison. A Workplan for 2005 will start to be developed at the September Commission meeting. All commissioners are requested to come prepared to decide committee members, priorities, issues and a possible retreat. Items listed for future agendas should be considered. These considerations were adopted by a unanimous vote (MSC Ongerth/Holland).

3. Public Works Staff Report on the Proposed Foothill Bridge: Although the staff (City Manager's) report has still not been finalized and released, the Secretary provided a brief statement from the Public Works Director. The Director's recommendation is that the permit should be approved on the following additional conditions: (1) that significant traffic and pedestrian safety improvements should be made as mitigating measures, and (2) that the design of the bridge should be improved to his satisfaction, in consultation with the Design Review Committee.

The following additional statement was adopted (MSC Shumer/Prevo -- Perry opposed) for to the Commission Chair to present orally to the Council at its July 13, 2004 meeting:

"However, if Council does pursue the option of issuing a permit with mitigations, we strongly recommend that the Council adopt language that states that:

Whereas this project and its application for an encroachment permit have a unique history, therefore this permit does not create a precedent for future requests for such permits; and in the future, any such encroachment permits should be secured before any part of intended construction is begun."

4. Staff Status Report on PWC Recommendation on Upper Sewer Laterals and Nonconforming Storm Drain System: The Secretary presented a draft outline of a proposed ordinance to amend the Berkeley Municipal Code and draft operational

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procedures for the Public Works Department. Although full text has essentially been drafted for both of these, there has not been time for necessary internal review, especially by the City Attorney's office. It is intended to be on the next Commission agenda as an action item. The Subcommittee (Commissioners Shumer and Dacey) will review these documents in advance.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Minority Report Procedure: The Secretary, as advised by the City Clerk's office, referred the Commission to Chapter III (A) (4-5) and Appendix E: Resolution 61,312 (Section 2(A)(1) of the Commissioners' Manual, both of which indicate that minority views may be included with the main report. It was noted that the Foothill Bridge Minority Report was attached as Exhibit E to the Commission's report to Council, which complies with these provisions.

2. Underground Districts: Vice Chair Shumer indicated that a full report would be held over until Commission Chair St. John returns for the September meeting. She further noted that the Council reduced the minimum vote from 70% to 60% as a result of citizens in the Thousand Oaks Heights District appealing directly to the Council and not through staff or the Commission.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

1. Update on Litter Issue (Commissioners Dacey & St. John)
2. Street Lighting Standards (including maintenance)
3. Recommendation of Street Cleaning Program
4. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
5. Standardization of City Street Lights
6. Public Works Commission Work Plan
7. Ad hoc subcommittee & liaison assignments (Quarterly)

Vice Chair Shumer further indicated that the 2005 Workplan, Upper Sewer Laterals and the Commission Binder would be action items on the September agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:42 p.m.