



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, November 3, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: 7:07 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Dacey Edwards, Holland, Jackson, Prevo, Shumer, St. John

Absent: Commissioners Ongerth

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Ringewald pointed out that the recent letter sent to the Commission on behalf of Local 790 members is unsigned and anonymous. He also emphasized that he is representing only himself in testimony before the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 6, 2005 Public Hearing: The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC St. John/Dacey with a vote of 6-0-2, Alward and Holland abstaining).

October 6, 2005 Regular Meeting: The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC St. John/Prevo with a vote of 6-0-2, Alward and Holland abstaining).

CHAIR REPORT: None.

STAFF REPORT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

PRESENTATION: Downtown Business Association

The presentation did not take place and will possibly be rescheduled for a meeting in the near future.

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.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING

November 3, 2005

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. Special Commission Meeting (Retreat) on December 1, 2005: Reports from “Brainstorm” Groups and Setting the Agenda:** Commissioners discussed formats to be most effective at the Retreat. Values and roles of the Commission will also be discussed. The previous work plan shall be used as a starting point. The date and time of the Special Meeting is changed to Saturday, December 3, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and it will be held at the Westside Bakery Café on 9th Street between Dwight and Parker.
- 2. Possible New Recommendations based on the October 18, 2005 Council Work Session on Private Sewer Lateral Program:** The Commission will discuss implementation levels and financing options for the Work Plan at the upcoming Special Meeting and then consider whether an Action Item should be placed on the agenda for its January 2006 meeting.
- 3. Possible Recommendations for Revisions to Sanitary Sewer Service Fees:** This will be taken up together with Action Item 2.
- 4. Review of Creek Permit Applications per BMC 17.08:** Staff engineer Lorin Jensen gave a summary of how staff implements the current Creeks Ordinance in responding to inquiries about the existence of a creek on a particular property, including how the definitions used by different permitting agencies apply. The Commission voted to support the actions taken by staff on four recent permit applications (MSC St. John/Alward with a vote of 8-0-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 1. Discussion of Commission Attendance and Achieving Quorums:** It was noted that a quorum was barely achieved at last month’s regular meeting and public hearing. Commissioners were urged to respect the importance of regular attendance and to use Leaves of Absence sparingly.
- 2. Overview of CPUC Rule 20 Utility Undergrounding Districts:** Commissioner St. John circulated a summary and described the different methods of forming districts under Rule 20.
- 3. PWC Primer: A Pictorial View of Berkeley’s Infrastructure:** Commissioner St. John prepared a copy for each Commissioner of several key maps to use in conjunction with the Commission Binder.
- 4. Status of Corporation Yard Operations and Improvements:** This will carry over as a discussion item at the Retreat, in particular whether Commissioners, especially new Commissioners, would benefit from another tour of the Yard.

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ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

1. Staff Presentations
 - a. Environmental Issues
2. Issues Being Deferred for Now
 - a. Street Lighting Standards (including maintenance)
 - b. Recommendation regarding Street Cleaning Program
 - c. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
3. Reports from Liaisons to Other Commissions

ADJOURNMENT: 9:17 p.m.