



## MINUTES



### CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

**Call to Order/  
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Rivera, who led Commissioners and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Commissioners Absent:** Kirkorn

**Commissioners Present:** Commissioners Harlow, Mason, McGovern, Rivera, Siersema and Spencer were in attendance.

**Others Present:** Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works  
Jim Jones, Maintenance Manager  
Tony Olmos, City Engineer  
Bill Janusz, Principal Civil Engineer, Transportation  
Linda Daily, Project Manager  
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

### MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner McGovern to approve the minutes of August 20, 2008.

VOTE: The motion carried.  
AYES: 5  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 1 (Kirkorn)  
ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Siersema)

### PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

C-1'

## DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

Travis Hopkins provided an update to the Commissioners on the City's bottled water program. The City will no longer be purchasing bottled City water; however, in its place the City has purchased reusable water containers with the centennial logo to encourage individuals to drink City water in place of purchasing bottled water. The Centennial Committee is considering ordering some of the containers to use for a fund raiser.

Travis Hopkins provided an update of the issue of the alleys throughout the City and their condition. An evaluation process and ranking is currently under way. At conclusion, a list of each alley and ranking will be provided to the Commission.

Commissioner Harlow inquired if there has been any response from the City Attorney's Office regarding the interpretation of State Highway Code § 1805. A favorable interpretation could then allow the City Council to vote on including alleys as a street designation by a 4/5 vote of City Council. With that designation, alleys would be eligible for use of Measure M funds. Mr. Hopkins has not yet received any communication from the City Attorney's Office on interpretation. Tony Olmos, City Engineer, added the City is investigating how other cities are dealing with repairs of alleys.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

F-1. Active Capital Project Report – An update on active capital projects under construction, as well as those in the planning stage was presented for the Commission's information.

Commissioner Siersema requested an update on Lift Station D. Travis Hopkins and Tony Olmos provided updates. Negotiations are still on-going regarding the responsibility of the repairs of the gravity sewer line. The City has proceeded with repairs to enable removal of traffic controls from Warner Avenue. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner McGovern requested an update on the City Hall retrofit project. Tony Olmos provided the update. Toxic substances were identified during construction. The City is working with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and expects results within 3 weeks to allow for removal of the contaminant.

Commissioner Siersema expressed concern over the Community Services project – Edison Sports Complex – and Public Works' involvement to ensure spending does not become excessive. Mr. Hopkins provided an

overview of allocated funds through City Council, and Public Works involvement during the construction process.

- F-2. Upcoming City Council Study Sessions – The City Council conducts public Study Sessions on the evenings of City Council meetings, normally beginning at 4:00 p.m., in Room B-8. A tentative listing of upcoming sessions is submitted for the Commission's information. Travis Hopkins informed the Commission Public Works does not have any items scheduled for Study Session at this time.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Reconstruction of Various Residential Streets; MSC-455 – Jim Jones, Maintenance Manager, presented the item. The item includes additional streets budgeted in fiscal year 2008/09. When originally presented to the Commission May 17, 2008, five streets were included. By combining funds over multiple years the project is expanded to include an additional 18 streets for a total of 23 streets. The streets to be included are taken from both the original chronological list and the newer list of streets rated by condition as directed by City Council. The engineer's cost estimated is based on bids received in May 2008 for a similar project. Materials costs have substantially increased, therefore, the number of streets to actually be reconstructed may be reduced. Reconstruction includes removal and replacement of concrete sidewalks, curb and gutter, and any identified street trees. Reconstruction also includes resurfacing of the asphalt roadway.

VOTE: The motion carried.  
AYES: 6  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 1 (Kirkorn)  
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-2. Memo to City Council Regarding Maintenance of Edinger Parkway Landscaping – At the August Public Works Commission meeting, Commissioner Harlow volunteered to contact a City Council member to discuss the concern of on-going maintenance of the landscaping along Edinger that was a joint project with the Sea Isle Garden Club. Commissioner Harlow met with Mayor Pro-Tem Bohr who did not recall any understanding by City Council that the Sea Isle Garden Club would be responsible for landscaping maintenance. Discussion ensued.

The Commission agreed a memo to the City Council, drafted by Commissioners Mason and Harlow, was in order and will be brought back at the next meeting. The memo will include concerns over any future joint projects with outside groups and the cost to the City of ongoing

maintenance. The memo will express the Public Works Commission request that City Council address such issues should a similar project present itself in the future.

No vote was taken and a revised memo to City Council will be presented at the next Public Works Commission for action.

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Mason asked about trash pick up and when the City was going to start citing citizens for visible carts after trash collection. He also commented that in many areas street sweeping in on the following day and inquired if Parking Control could cite for visible containers. Jim Jones responded the City has an enforcement officer that is funded through the trash program who works the area in addition to responding to calls on trash related issues. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner McGovern complimented City staff on highway notification of construction projects. He commented as he has driven through adjoining cities commuters are not always given the same courtesy or the signage is located too close to the project to allow a driver to detour in time to avoid the construction area.

Commissioner Siersema inquired when there is a Monday holiday and street sweeping is scheduled for Tuesday, trash containers must then be placed out for collection on Tuesday and inquired as to how these situations were handled. Both Travis Hopkins and Jim Jones responded to the inquiry that alternatives are being created to address this concern.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Works Commission adjourned to the meeting date of Wednesday, October 15, 2008, 5:00 p.m., City Council Chambers. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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George Rivera  
Chair



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Joyce A. Greene  
Administrative Assistant