



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION NOVEMBER 16, 2011

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

Commissioners Absent: Cook

Commissioners Present: Commissioners, Herbel, McGovern, O'Connell, Siersema, Spencer and Thomas were in attendance.

Others Present: Mike Whipple, Bucknam & Associates
Ben Caragan, Bucknam & Associates
Steve Bucknam, Bucknam & Associates
Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works
Tony Olmos, City Engineer
Brian Ragland, Utilities Manager
Todd Broussard, Principal Civil Engineer
Duncan Lee, Principal Civil Engineer
Dave Dominguez, Community Services
Joyce Greene, Administrative Secretary

B. PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

C. MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Herbel, seconded by Commissioner McGovern to approve the minutes of October 19, 2011 as presented.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Cook)
ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Spencer)

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Carchio addressed the Public Works Commissioners and expressed his sincere appreciation to them for their dedication to the City and the time spent serving on the Public Works Commission.

Commissioner O'Connell thanked the Mayor for his leadership this past year.

E. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

Travis Hopkins informed the Commissioners there are no items for a December meeting at this time and it is anticipated the December 21, 2011 Public Works Commission Meeting will be canceled.

Travis Hopkins extended an invitation to the Commissioners to attend a holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at approximately 11:45 AM. Information will be forthcoming by email.

Travis Hopkins informed the Commissioners the Study Session on December 19, 2011, 4:00 PM, will be the Assessment Feasibility Study presentation to the City Council. The City Council packet with all information is placed on the City website typically Wednesday or Thursday prior to the meeting date.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

- F-1. Street Improvement Assessment Feasibility Study – When the Pavement Management Plan was presented to City Council at the July Strategic Planning Session, a request was made for additional information on revenue generation through either a general tax or creation of an assessment district. Staff was then directed to prepare a more in-depth analysis of the feasibility of creating an assessment district.

Tony Olmos introduced staff from Bucknam & Associates who presented the preliminary findings. Mike Whipple, of Bucknam, gave the presentation. Mr. Whipple provided an overview of assessment districts and the process that would be used should the city decide to move forward. A sample area was chosen for local street improvement explaining a weighted ballot, and an example method of apportionment. The presentation also included a sample funding structure and a sample of assessments. Mr. Whipple provided information on three sample districts from the cities of San Clemente, Elk Grove and La Habra Heights. He emphasized a very significant component is community outreach. He then asked for questions.

Commissioner O'Connell inquired about costs to mobile home residents stating many of them are on fixed income. He also expressed his concern of any new

tax or assessment when the country is in such a deep recession. Commissioner O'Connell expressed he would not be in support of any tax or assessment at this time. Discussion ensued.

Travis Hopkins reiterated the study was City Council driven and not initiated by staff. What could be repaired through an assessment is maintenance and rehabilitation of sidewalks, curb and gutter, alleys, parking lots and residential streets with slurry or overlay as most grant monies received by the city is for arterial street rehabilitation only. Discussion continued.

Commissioner McGovern asked if city trees intruding on sidewalks would be localized spot repair or if it would be the same repair as streets on the Tree Petition List. Mr. Hopkins responded the repairs would be localized and not the complete street rehabilitation as performed on a tree petition street.

Commissioner McGovern stated he has the same economic concerns expressed by Commissioner O'Connell. He then inquired about setup and administrative costs for assessment districts and if the other cities were moving forward. Discussion continued.

Chair Siersema inquired if the revenue would go to the General Fund and then counted as part of the 15% infrastructure calculation, or if it would be held separately and not part of the infrastructure calculation. Travis Hopkins responded as yet there has been no discussion over these issues. Discussion continued.

The Commissioners were in agreement they would like City Council informed of their concerns prior to the Study Session on December 19, 2011, of an added financial burden to owners/residents during such difficult economic times. The Commissioners would like the City Council to not assume an assessment will be approved. The Commissioners expressed if the assessment is approved, that the assessment funds collected should not be included in the 15% infrastructure calculation.

- F-2. OC-44 Pipeline Break and Repair – Mr. Hopkins stated at the October Public Works Commission Meeting a request was made for an update on the OC-44 pipeline break and repair, which is provided in the meeting packet. The cause of the pipeline failure, September 2011, is believed to be due to corrosion in a crack in the external concrete coating. The city co-owns the pipeline with Mesa Consolidated Water District. The city portion of the repair is estimated at \$160,000-\$200,000. Funds for the repair are not budgeted. Discussion ensued.
- F-3. Active Capital Project Report - Tony Olmos provided updates on various projects and then asked the Commissioners for any questions. Dave Dominguez, Community Services, was in attendance to answer any questions related to park projects.

Commissioner Herbel left at 6:20 PM.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Central Park Irrigation Reservoir Modification Project, CC- 382 – Travis Hopkins gave a brief overview presentation of the project and stated staff is available for any questions. The project will eliminate an abandoned irrigation pump station and reservoir in Central Park that currently stores nuisance water and is no longer needed to irrigate the park. The scope of work includes partially filling the abandoned irrigation reservoir, landscaping the fill area, and removal of the remaining old abandoned pump station appurtenances.

Motion by Commissioner O’Connell, seconded by Commissioner McGovern to recommend to City Council, the Central Park Irrigation Reservoir Modification Project, CC-1382.

VOTE:	The motion carried.
AYES:	5
NOES:	0
ABSENT:	2 (Cook, Herbel)
ABSTENTIONS:	0

- G-2. Rainbow Disposal Contract Funding for Infrastructure Maintenance – Due to schedule conflicts, Chair Siersema and Commissioner Spencer were unable to work on the proposed letter to the City Council this past month. Chair Siersema stated that he would be working on formatting some information with Commissioner Spencer for the January Public Works Commission Meeting.

H. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

I. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner McGovern requested the draft minutes from this meeting relating to the street improvement assessment feasibility study and comments of the Commissioners be provided to the City Council prior to the December 19, 2011 Study Session.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM to December 21, 2011, in City Council Chambers.



Michael Siersema
Chair



Joyce Greene
Administrative Assistant