Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES:

Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 4:00 PM

Burlington Department of Public Works – Front Conference Room
645 Pine Street – Burlington, VT

–Meeting Minutes–

Members Present: Councilor Max Tracy, TEUC Chairperson
Councilor Richard Deane, TEUC Member

Other Councilors Present: None

City Staff Present: Chapin Spencer, DPW
Nicole Losch, DPW
Laura Wheelock, DPW
Megan Moir, DPW
Susan Molzon, DPW
Kirsten Shapiro, CEDO
Meagan Tuttle, Planning and Zoning

Residents Present: See Attendance Sheet

Councilor Tracy called the meeting to order at 4:48 PM.

1. Agenda

Councilor Tracy moved for a motion on the agenda. Councilor Deane moved to adopt the Agenda with exception of Agenda Item 5, VTrans bike/ped Grant, and Councilor Tracy seconded. All in favor.

2. Public Forum

Councilor Tracy outlined guidelines for the public forum and requested that everyone be respectful.
No attendees requested to speak as part of the public forum.

3. Minutes of 3/08/2017

Councilor Tracy moved for a motion on the minutes, Councilor Deane moved to approve the minutes and Councilor Tracy seconded. All in favor.

4. North Avenue Pilot Update – Nicole Losch, DPW Presentation

Nicole provided an update on the North Avenue Pilot project. We are one year into the pilot. The project team is compiling reports, traffic data, results of public opinion survey and crash data. Information will be posted on the website. Crash data reveals fewer and less severe crashes on North Avenue, but rear end accidents have increased. The northbound, PM peak hour is the most congested time. DPW staff is scheduled to present the findings and our recommendation to the City Council on July 10.

Chapin Spencer, Councilors asked for a public meeting in the North End prior to the July 10th meeting. The meeting scheduled for this week will be rescheduled.

Councilor Deane asked if people are using 127 as an alternate to North Avenue. As a result, are there more crashes being reported on 127?

Jason Charest, North Avenue volumes have remained generally constant so there is no reason to believe volumes have been shifted to 127. Crash data on the beltline has not been collected.

5. VTrans Bike/Ped Grant Candidate– Item removed from Agenda


Meagan provided an overview of the Great Streets Initiative. The key element of Great Streets is to rebalance the right-of-way for a range of users while allowing for functional traffic movement and parking. As a result of the ongoing construction of Eagle’s Landing on St. Paul Street, there is an opportunity to redevelop St. Paul Street in coordination with the completion of the Eagle’s Landing construction. The team plans to refocus efforts on St. Paul Street, rather than Main Street, to take advantage of this opportunity.

Meagan presented two concept plans for St. Paul Street. Both concepts incorporate undergrounding the utilities, bumpouts, stormwater treatment, tree belts, and wider sidewalks.

The project team is seeking support for Concept B. Construction is anticipated in 2018. The project team will be visiting the Board of Finance for an amendment to the design contract to progress design plans for the St. Paul Street section.
Councilor Deane asked if they have talked to downtown parking management and adjacent businesses. Meagan, businesses have had positive feedback. Their biggest concerns have been managing access during construction and the construction impacts.

Councilor Deane asked if urban soils will be an issue for this project. Kirsten, the State does not monitor soils under existing roadways. This project is different than City Hall Park and the waterfront so they do not expect this to be an issue.

Councilor Tracy advised the design should be mindful of treatments in front of What Ales You and avoid moveable objects. Tracy also requested alternatives for materials be considered in regards to sustainable materials and tropical hardwoods.

Meagan, details of materials will be worked out as design continues. They have been working with Parks for suggestions and feedback on the materials they use in the parks.

Councilor Deane moved for a motion to support Concept B for St. Paul Street and recommend the City Council support a contract amendment for Phase II-A to complete design and engineering services for St. Paul St, and Councilor Tracy seconded. All in favor.

7. WWTP Digester/District Heating – Megan Moir, DPW

Megan provided an overview of the digester and district heating projects. There are strong synergies with sewage heat recovery and digester systems. They are working with Corix as a consultant to investigate concepts. They are looking into scenarios at Perkins Pier and McNeil.

Councilor Deane asked if the heat recovery piece is part of the overall heat distribution system. Megan, we could do just McNeil or both scenarios but it may be good to have redundancy with both facilities.

Councilor Deane asked if there is a way to project cost of capital and return on investment and what the timeframe is for this investigation. Megan, the financials will be built into the model as it is developed. Chapin, the due diligence and investigations will take place over the next twelve months.

8. Councilors Updates

None given.

9. Adjourn

Councilor Deane motioned to adjourn and Councilor Tracy seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:42 PM.
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<td>Laura Wheelock</td>
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