Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES:

Tuesday, July 26th 2016 at 3:00 PM

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

–Meeting Minutes–

Members Present: Max Tracy, TEUC
Joan Shannon, TEUC
David Hartnett, TEUC

Others Present: Chapin Spencer, DPW
Nicole Losch, DPW
Damian Roy, DPW
Beth Anderson, DPW
Elizabeth Gohringer, DPW

Max called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

1. Agenda

Joan moved to add an update on the City’s Water Mains to the agenda. All in favor.

2. Public Forum

No members of the public present.

3. Minutes of 5/03/16

Joan motions to approve the minutes, Max seconds. All in favor.

Damian gives a brief overview of what the Pilot Study was and why it was done, explaining how residents are challenged with accessing their driveways. Some key points made were:

- The pilot was in effect from April 15th through May 15th.
- During the pilot parking within 2’ of all driveways was prohibited.
- BPD proactively checked 640 driveways within the pilot area and issued 88 warning tickets over the course of 23 days.
- Staff distributed 180 surveys to residents within the area and received 31 responses.
- Based on these responses staff concludes that 3 out of 4 residents are in favor of the 2 foot prohibition.
- Staff proposes painting brackets around driveways on streets that meet specified criteria.

A discussion followed between the TEUC members and staff with Damian and Chapin answering.

Joan stated that the TEUC should not vote to approve on the proposed parking prohibition as that authority falls to the Public Works Commission.

Max motions to offer unofficial support to the proposed parking prohibition. Joan seconds. All in favor.

5. North Avenue Pilot Project Update, Nicole Losch – DPW

Nicole states that the Pilot implementation is complete and that DPW is continuing to monitor and make adjustments. Some of these adjustments include:

- Signal timing at the Ethan Allen Parkway intersection
- Lane configurations for the northbound lane near route 127
- Improvements made to the CCTA bus stop at the Ethan Allen Shopping Center

DPW continues to receive public comments from Front Porch Forum, Facebook, emails and phone calls. These comments are being compiled to identify general impressions of the project. Nicole states that the majority of comments have been positive. There is a full public survey planned in September through a survey consultant. Nicole provides additional information received from their initial feedback and measurements.

TEUC councilors begin their discussion commenting on their experience with the pilot and the public comments they’ve received.
6. Asset Management Plan – Chapin Spencer, DPW

Chapin presented an overview of the Asset Management Plan which focuses on timely maintenance of city assets as a way of reducing long term replacement/reconstruction costs by maximizing asset lifecycle. Efforts made include sidewalk cutting, crack sealing street pavement, and water main pipe relining.

Chapin spoke of the need of a cross-departmental unified system to help manage and track city assets, improve workflow communication between departments and provide work history and response times for work orders.

Beth states that many departments are ready for adopting a unified management system and how important it is for the city to efficiently manage their assets and resources to ensure that resources get allocated to the correct issues. This may lead the city to addressing issues in a proactive maintenance approach instead of a reactive repair/replace approach.

Chapin states that the new system’s prioritization would be more transparent and easier to understand.

7. Councilors Updates

Joan asks for an update on the King Street water main relining. Chapin responds that water and wastewater lines are being relined and that this is the first time this technology is being used in the state although the technology has been around for about 20 years. Benefits of this method are reduced costs versus open dig and less time to complete.

David asks about the frequency of beach closings this year with Chapin responding that the closings are a result of high levels of blue-green algae caused by higher lake temperatures due to the mild winter. Beach closures can also be caused by contamination from surface runoff.

Max asks about the Hickock and Isham water main project with Chapin answering that this is a full line replacement which is an open cut that has been underway for about a month.

Max also requests a list of all sidewalk work for this construction season. Chapin will provide this list.

8. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm

The date for the next TEUC meeting is tentatively set for September 15th, 2016 @ 5:00pm.