

Burlington Department of Public Works Commission Meeting
Draft Minutes September 19, 2018
645 Pine Street – Main Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Jim Barr, Justine Sears, Chris Gillman, Brendan Hogan,
Bob Alberry by phone.

Commissioners Absent: Tiki Archambeau, Solveig Overby

Item 1 – Call to Order – Welcome – Chair Comments

Commissioner Gillman called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Item 2 – Agenda

Commissioner Barr makes a motion to approve the agenda

Commissioner Gillman seconds.

Ayes are unanimous

Item 3 – Public Forum

Dave Hartnett spoke about stormwater/wastewater bond proposal, residential parking, greenway projects and the condition of the streets in the New North End.

Caryn Long spoke about the planters and bollards in the area of Loomis Street.

Mr. Mahnke spoke about traffic and pedestrian safety improvements as things are getting worse in Ward 1.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

A. Birchcliff Parkway

B. Parking Agreement for State of Vermont – 34 spaces Lakeview Garage

C. Parking Agreement 247 Pearl Street – 10 Meter Spaces to Replace Lost Space on Pearl Street.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept Consent Agenda

Commissioner Gillman seconded

Ayes are unanimous

Item 6 – Proposed Wastewater & Stormwater Bond

A. Presentation by Director Spencer and Assistant Director Megan Moir. The Board of Finance has recommended that this be placed on the November ballot. Assistant Director Moir gave a verbal presentation of the recommended stormwater and wastewater investments.

B. Commissioner Discussion – Commissioner Sears stated that Chair Archambeau wanted to wait to vote on this issue as he wanted to review the material.

Commissioners Hogan and Gillman asked questions about the proposal.

C. There was no public comments

D. Commissioner Gillman moved to recommend the city council approve the resolution which would place this proposed bond on the November 2018 ballot.

E. Seconded by Commissioner Barr

Commissioner Alberry – Aye
Commissioner Barr – Aye
Commissioner Hogan – Aye
Commissioner Gillman – Aye
Vice Chair Sears – Abstains

Item 7 – Mid Season Construction Update

Director Spencer presented on the status of the Department's 2018 reinvestment goals. The Department is on track to achieve the overall production goals for paving, sidewalks, water mains, and curbing set earlier in the year.

Commissioner Discussion: Commissioner Barr is looking forward to the traffic calming in Ward 2. There is a temporary crosswalk at Colchester Avenue and the Chase Mill.

Item 8 – South Union Street Demonstration Project – Director Spencer

Director Spencer stated that residents have requested to host a South Union Street Demonstration Project where they propose to turn one block of Maple Street into a one-way street by Edmunds School and extended the protected bike lane for a one week trial period. Edmunds School administration is supportive. They asked if we could extend this project for as parents, staff and school children feel it is safer travels to and from school and they want more time to experience the changes. Director Spencer notified the Commission that he planned to allow an extension of the demonstration project for one additional week under his pilot authority unless there is concern from the Commission.

Commissioner Discussion: Commissioners Barr and Hogan expressed support for extending this for another week.

Item 9 – October Commissioner Meeting

Director Spencer floated the possibility of a potential date change for the October meeting as we may need Commission action on a Water Bond prior to the October 15 Council meeting to obtain favorable borrowing terms. Director Spencer asked if Commissioners would consider a special meeting, whether the Commission would prefer one or two meetings, and what Commissioners could make a conceptual October 10 date. Many Commissioners expressed a preference for one meeting instead of two, would prefer the regular 10/17 date, but many could make a 10/10 meeting if needed.

Item 10 – Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept. Commissioner Hogan seconded.
Commissioner Barr – Aye
Commissioner Alberry – Aye
Commissioner Hogan – Aye
Commissioner Gillman – Aye

Item 11 – Director's Report

Director Spencer stated that he is recommending including the outstanding Traffic Requests report in the Director's Report reduce the time to develop a separate report. He reported on upcoming potential Residential Permit Parking process changes and potential parking changes on narrow streets.

Commissioner Gillman stated that he would still want a periodic report on outstanding traffic requests. The Commission and Director discussed developing a biannual report to the Commission to supplement the summary in the monthly Director's Report.

Item 12 – Commissioner Communication

Commissioner Hogan asked about See Click Fix and asked if this was a preferred means for feedback from the residence of the city. He asked about what was being done for pedestrian safety while accessing Callahan Park -- specifically getting a crosswalk near Locust Terrace to cross to the park.

Commissioner Sears asked about getting a pedestrian signal at the North Champlain Street and Manhattan Drive intersection as cars travel fast through there and it is sometimes- hard to see vehicles coming.

Item 13 – Adjournment

Commissioner Barr motioned for adjournment

Commissioner Hogan seconded

All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.