

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

DATE: February 8, 2007

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:13 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDING MEMBERS

Lonnell Conley, Chairman
Patrice Abduallah
Ginny Cain
Scott Keller
Dane Mahern
Angela Mansfield
Mary Moriarty Adams
Michael Speedy.
Ryan Vaughn

ABSENT MEMBERS

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 26, 2007 - reappoints Greg Taylor to the Board of Public Works
"Do Pass" Vote 8-0

PROPOSAL NO. 641, 2006 - amends the Code to allow for parking meters that take payment
other than coins and to define the length of a parking space at said meters
"Postponed" until February 22, 2007 Vote 9-0

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, February 8, 2007. Chair Lonnell Conley called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Patrice Abdullallah, Ginny Cain, Scott Keller, Dane Mahern, Angela Mansfield, Mary Moriarty Adams, and Ryan Vaughn. Mike Speedy arrived shortly thereafter.

PROPOSAL NO. 26, 2007 - reappoints Greg Taylor to the Board of Public Works

Mr. Taylor said that serving on the Board of Public Works has been a great opportunity for him to learn more about what the City does and what the Department of Public Works (DPW) does for the City. He said that he has learned a lot about the sewer systems, and how and with what the streets are cleaned during snow storms. He said that he feels privileged to serve the City of Indianapolis, and believes that as a resident of Indianapolis, one should strive to do public service. Mr. Taylor said that he is very pleased with the work that is being done by Kumar Menon and DPW, and that the City has much to look forward to with the new CSO project and other DPW projects.

Councillor Mahern thanked Mr. Taylor for his hard work and commended him for serving on other boards that affect the City. He said that the City would have a hard time functioning without the work of volunteers such as Mr. Taylor.

Councillor Mansfield said that she noticed that Mr. Taylor is an attorney and advises Minority Owned Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women Owned Business Enterprises (WBE), and asked if he takes into consideration conflict of interest issues if any of his clients come before the Public Works Board. Mr. Taylor answered that there have been several contracts that the Board votes on that he has abstained due to conflicts of interest. He said prior to each Board meeting, he has the controller of the law firm in which he works to review the names of anyone in the professional services or general contract section. If any are represented by his law firm, he abstains from voting. Councillor Mansfield said that she believes that it is important to ensure that ethical considerations always be considered.

Chair Conley said that the Council is always appreciative of those who serve on Boards and perform good works for the City.

Councillor Abdullallah moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to forward Proposal No. 26, 2007 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0.

Chair Conley thanked the Colts organization for a class act and congratulated the team on winning the Super Bowl. He commended the City of Indianapolis for uplifting the city due to the win as opposed to performing acts of violence.

PROPOSAL NO. 641, 2006 - amends the Code to allow for parking meters that take payment other than coins and to define the length of a parking space at said meters

Mickey Rogers, Executive Assistant, DPW, said that DPW would appreciate the postponement of this proposal because the department is working on alterations to the language. He said that DPW hopes to have the changes, as well as a cover memo that will explain the changes, to the Council early next week.

[Clerk's note: Councillor Speedy arrived at this time, 5:09 p.m.]

Councillor Abdullah asked if the change of language deals with the meters that are listed in the proposal. Mr. Rogers said that the current proposal is fairly misleading in length, as it includes all the language that is existing in the code book for the affected chapters. He said the proposed amendment will refine the request down to the language that will actually change. Mr. Rogers said that principally, DPW is looking to modernize the language to allow for new technologies and to clarify language that has caused past difficulties. Councillor Abdullah asked if the changes would affect all existing meters. Mr. Rogers answered in the negative and stated that DPW is proposing to change language such as the code requiring that coins are deposited, which would prevent the use of technologies that accept credit card payments. He said that it does not mean that all meters will be replaced with ones that accept credit cards, but it gives the flexibility to make such changes. Councillor Abdullah asked if the Council will be informed of any changes that are anticipated. Mr. Rogers said that DPW will willingly present ideas that DPW is moving toward when those decisions are made.

Councillor Mahern said that he would like to ensure that this proposal moves forward as soon as possible to be competitive with other large cities and to give the citizens more options in using parking meters.

Chair Conley asked if DPW will be ready to go forward with the proposal by the next Public Works Committee meeting. Mr. Rogers answered in the affirmative. He said that he agrees with Councillor Mahern on a prompt passage.

Councillor Abdullah moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 641, 2006 until February 22, 2007. The motion carried by a vote of 9-0.

Conclusion

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Works Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lonnell Conley, Chair