



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Clerk's Office

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order on October 22, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers. On roll call, all Committee members were found to be present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Committee Member Lindsay added an item to the agenda under Any Other Matters, "Discuss the current condition of the median strips in the Landmarked Ficus Canopy Area."

It was the consensus of the Committee to approve the agenda with the amendments, as presented.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - *None*

V. TOWN OF PALM BEACH TRUCK REGULATION STUDY

Patricia Strayer, Town Engineer, provided background on the request from Town Council to complete a truck regulation study on how the large trucks access the Town. She explained Kimley-Horn & Associates completed the study and will present the information gathered.

Chris Heggen, P.E., Kimley-Horn, provided a presentation of the unrestricted movement of all legal vehicles on all streets within the Town and the issues that were created. Mr. Heggen elaborated in-depth on identifying the specific issues, the methodology and the data collected. He provided examples of other cities with truck restrictions and streets trucks should be using. In conclusion, Mr. Heggen provided

recommendations which touched on permitting of exceptions, codification, and education.

Discussion ensued regarding clarifications to be added to the study such as the following:

- specific numbers of trucks along with percentages,
- explanation of how certain intersections were selected for review,
- recommendation to consider the inclusion of one-way streets in the study,
- provide complete list of municipalities that were reviewed for similar ordinances or regulations,
- provide a potential cost of implementation.

In response to questions, Mr. Heggen provided clarification for the Committee on the data presented. Public Works Director Paul Brazil explained the next steps would be to make a recommendation to Town Council regarding the engineering, send the information to the Ordinance, Rules & Standards Committee (ORS) to discuss implantation, and subsequently staff would be able to provide an overall cost. Town Engineer Strayer explained the cities listed in the report were not the only cities reviewed, but are inclusive of the data that had regulations that would fit the Town's needs.

As a result of the discussion, Director Brazil provided direction to Kimley-Horn regarding revising the data to show volume in addition to the percentages starting on page 16 of their report and to list all the cities that were included in the case study review. He recommended that once the draft report was revised that the Committee accept the report, send it to Town Council for review and request review by ORS.

Committee Member Lindsay asked for clarification on the recommendation of the area north of Sunrise Avenue regarding truck prohibition.

In response, Director Brazil explained the recommendation is to regulate, not to prohibit.

Chair Moore requested that the Recommendation map used in the presentation be presented to Town Council in a landscape format for ease of understanding. Additionally, review again the one-way streets north of Royal Palm Way for restrictions of truck traffic.

It was the consensus of the Committee to send the Truck Regulation Study to Town Council, after the discussed revisions were completed and reviewed by each Committee member without holding another Public Works Committee Meeting.

VI. ONGOING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UPDATE 2020

Jason Debrincat, Senior Engineer, provided a brief PowerPoint summary on each active construction project within the Town as follows:

- D16/18 Stormwater Pumpstation – *challenging, ongoing*

- Seminole Avenue Drainage Improvements – *challenging, ongoing*
- Crescent Drive Stormwater Improvements – *kudos, complete*
- Sand Transfer Plant Rehabilitation – *started to pump sand, interior complete*
- South Fire Station Chiller Replacement - *complete*
- Undergrounding Phase 2 North Paving –*weather permitting, should stay on schedule for completion*
- City of West Palm Beach Paving Repairs – Watermain Related – *coordinating with Undergrounding Project & Marina Project, ongoing*
- Town Marina – *on schedule, maintaining public engagement, ongoing*
- Undergrounding – *ongoing*
- Pay-As-You-Go Capital Improvement Fund – *snapshot of projects*

Committee Members asked brief clarification questions, made comments and praised staff on some of the projects during the project summary provided by Mr. Debrincat.

Patricia Strayer, Town Engineer, reported additional information on the Undergrounding Phase 2 North Paving project. She explained the FPL telephone poles are currently being removed. They were set to be completed however, the wet weather conditions have delayed completion. Additionally, FPU has provided funds for 40% of the milling and resurfacing of the streets for the paving section of this project.

Committee Members requested the Town Marina Timelines document Mr. Debrincat presented to be included as part of the Marina back-up for Town Council.

VII. GREEN INITIATIVE/FICUS REMOVAL PROGRAM STATUS

Paul Colby, Facilities Maintenance Division Manager, provided an update on the progress pertaining to the Town's Green Initiative program. He explained the first four items of the memo in the back up are updates and specifically focused the review on the following:

- North County Road Ficus Canopy Treatments
- Alternate Treatments for Royal Palm Bug
- Bee Removal Program
- Nematode Activity at Town Hall
- Pythium Root Rot at Bradley Park
- Green Initiative Team

Division Manager Colby reported the Ficus Canopy continues to receive two treatments per year. Since the last Committee meeting, there were four trees removed from the canopy due to structural damage unrelated to white fly, but from hypoxylon canker. Staff is currently researching the existing Town Codes related to diseases to see if it is enforceable by Code Enforcement.

Discussion ensued regarding where the canker was coming from, how it is spread, how the trees are affected and how to remove it.

Division Manager Colby reported staff is currently working with the Town Arborist to look for alternate treatments of Royal Palm Bug and testing is being performed at the Town's nursery.

Division Manager Colby reported that staff has not had to eradicate any bees since the last Committee meeting and provided a description of how the removal process works.

Division Manager Colby reported there has been Nematode activity at Town Hall Square. Since no alternative treatment for Nematodes exists, staff treats this area with chemicals when needed and are responsible with treatments.

Division Manager Colby reported Bradley Park and the Living Wall are experiencing occasional outbreaks of the turf disease, Pythium Root Rot, due to drainage during heavy periods of rain. Currently, the Living Wall turf replacement project has been delayed due to the wet weather. After the Bradley Park renovation, there have been some issues. Staff plans to use extra fill from the Bradley Park Title Garden project to remedy the areas that need attention.

Division Manager Colby reported the Town has assembled a Green Initiative Team (GIT). He explained who is involved and the team's goals, which will be to provide structure and focus on policies and initiatives in order to successfully enhance the Town.

Discussion ensued briefly regarding the payment of the Tidal Garden project for Bradley Park from the Garden Club.

No additional questions or comments were discussed on these items.

VIII. CISTERN UTILIZATION

Town Engineer Strayer provided some background regarding our contract with West Palm Beach, the discussion of performing a Water Supply Feasibility Study looking for alternatives to a water supply to the Town and explained that staff has researched Town Code for information on cisterns.

Director Brazil briefly reviewed the research of our Town Codes regarding cisterns explaining that they are permissible, typically cisterns are located on private property, and currently the Town has zero on Town property.

Committee Member Lindsay added that there is one significant cistern on private property and commented on the wide use of them in island communities. She suggested that staff look for opportunities to identify properties where a cistern is applicable and educate residents to help with interest. She explained how useful cisterns are with irrigation, noting that 65% of the Town's water usage is irrigation.

Chair Moore suggested thinking about involving landscape architects to help raise awareness quickly.

Discussion ensued regarding where a cistern would be placed, how they work and how to maintain it.

IX. ANY OTHER MATTERS

A. East Coast Regional Treatment Plant

Chair Moore commented on receiving pollution notices from Palm Beach County in regard to the East Coast Regional Treatment Plant (ECR). She requested to add this item to the next agenda, a brief update on the plant and what the Town is responsible for.

Director Brazil provided background on the regional sewer treatment plant. He provided information on the ownership and the operator of the plant, the project challenges surrounding the plant, the structural decline and need for improvements.

Discussion ensued briefly on alternatives to the current contract, how to staff the plant, moral and retention among employees.

It was the consensus of the Committee to put an update of the East Coast Regional Treatment Plant on the next Public Works Committee agenda for further discussion.

B. Discussion Regarding the Current Condition of the Median Strips in the Landmarked Ficus Canopy Area

Committee Member Lindsay brought to the attention of the Committee the damage of truck tire marks to the median strips in the Landmarked Ficus Canopy area. She presented some photos of the damage to the Committee and staff to place in the record. Additionally, she requested that staff research alternatives to address this area besides using sod.

Discussion ensued regarding shade in the area, how to improve this area, shade loving plants, and possible drainage project when Undergrounding is in that area.

It was the consensus of the Committee to put an update regarding improvement possibilities and condition of the Median Strips on the Landmarked Ficus Canopy Area on the next Public Works Committee agenda for further discussion.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, the Public Works Committee meeting of October 22, 2020 was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

APPROVED:

Danielle H. Moore, Chair

PREPARED BY:

Antonette Fabrizi, Board Clerk

ATTEST:

Queenester Nieves, MBA, CMC
Town Clerk

Date