

City of St. Petersburg

PUBLIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Meeting of May 28, 2009 – 9:15 am

City Hall, Room 100

Members and Alternates: Chair Karl Nurse, Vice Chair Herbert Polson, Council Member Leslie Curran, and alternate, Council Member Jim Kennedy. Council Member Jeff Danner was absent.

Others present: Council Member Wengay Newton, Council Member Bill Dudley, Amelia Preston, Rick Craft, John Wolfe, Mark Winn, Mike Connors, Tish Elston, Michael Fredrick, Joe Kubicki, Sgt. Dale Moushon, Todd Yost, George Cassady, Kim Streeter, Cheryl Stacks and Dave Metz.

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda: *Agenda was approved*

Approval of Minutes: *Minutes were approved*

1. New Business

2. Continued/Deferred Business

- a. ***Review of Water Rates for Extreme Users*** – Council inquired about possible changes in the rate structure to help reduce high water use among the city’s largest water users. The city currently has a tiered rate structure which accelerates after 8,000 and 15,000 gallons per month. George Cassady reported that they would like to evaluate whether the 15,000 gallon mark would be punitive to large families and would like to look at the 20,000 gallon tier for the additional rate increase. Customers using over 20,000 gallon per month would receive a 100% rate increase over the 15,000 rate.

Action Item: *Staff was directed to proceed with development of an additional tier for users exceeding the 20,000 gallons per month mark and return with a proposed rate.*

- b. ***Tree Line and Yard Parking*** – Council Member Newton expressed his concern over citizens parking over sidewalks and in yards. Todd Yost explained that Police jurisdiction ends at the sidewalk or the right of way and the Codes Department jurisdiction is from the sidewalk or right of way to the house. Both Police and Codes have processes in place to educate the public before issuing a citation.

Action Item: *None*

- c. **Bicycles on Sidewalks** – Citizen Joe Caimano commented about the recent change to the ordinance as it relates to bicycles on sidewalks. He commented on the numerous problems with bicycles on the sidewalks in the Business District. Cheryl Stacks reported that in the former edition of the City’s Bike Ordinance, bicycling was prohibited on sidewalks in a “business district.” In the newer version, bicycling is allowed on the sidewalks throughout St. Petersburg; however bicyclists must yield to pedestrians. Cheryl also reported that Florida State Statutes recently changed their definition of a bicycle to also include electric assisted vehicles that can go up to 20 miles per hour and we may need to revise the ordinance to include electric assisted bicycles.

Action Item: To educate the public, the committee recommended staff work with the downtown businesses, the Downtown Neighborhood Association and post signs along downtown sidewalks.

- d. **Mirror Lake Dr. and 2nd Ave. S. Two-Way Conversion** – Joe Kubicki reported on staff’s progress of the resurfacing and conversion of one-way streets in the Downtown to a two-way operation. The committee questioned the benefit of converting Mirror Lake Drive to a two-way operation and wished to defer this item until the June 11, 2009 meeting.

Action Item: Committee moved to defer this item until June 11, 2009.

3. Next Meeting – June 11, 2009, 9:15 am, Meeting in Room 100.

- a. **Renaming of Preston Ave to Paris Ave** (referred by Council Member Nurse)
- b. **Accessibility for disabled while attending City Events** (referred by Council Member Newton)
- c. **Mirror Lake Dr. and 2nd Ave. S. Two-Way Conversion** (deferred from May 28, 2009, referred by staff)

4. Adjournment