



City of Charleston
Committee on Public Works & Utilities
March 24, 2025

A meeting of the Committee on Public Works & Utilities was held this date beginning at 5:03 p.m. over video conference call.

Notice of this meeting was sent to all local news media.

Present: Councilmember Waring, Chair, Mayor Cogswell, Councilmember Gregg, and Councilmember Parker.

Also Present: Matt Alltop, Jennifer Cook, Julia Copeland, Magalie Creech, Elizabeth Dieck, Matthew Fountain, Tim Keane, Hampton Logan, Sheila Smith, and Robbie Somerville.

Link to meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGgKPQ4a0Us&t=210s>

A. Invocation

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence provided by Chair Waring.

B. Approval of Public Works and Utilities Committee Minutes

1. February 24, 2025

On a motion by Mayor Cogswell, seconded by Councilmember Gregg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Item B1.

C. Request to Set a Public Hearing

1. Request for public hearing on the proposed abandonment of a 40' (.125 ac) portion of Sheppard Street

Ms. Copeland explained the item while sharing her screen with an overview of the area. She asked the Committee to sign off on a public hearing to be held within the next 40 days to abandon a section to eventually be quitclaimed by the nearby senior lifestyle community, and the community would then provide the City with access to the Lowline.

Chair Waring said the request had been unanimously approved at the Real Estate Committee meeting.

On a motion by Mayor Cogswell, seconded by Councilmember Gregg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Item C1.

D. Old Business

None.

E. Acceptance and Dedication of Rights-of-Way and Easements

1. **Acceptance and dedication of an Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement Agreement on property owned by MAYBANK 3030, LLC as part of the Maybank Townhomes development at 3030 Maybank Highway. Said drainage easement is for the open channel/wetlands system conveying public drainage within the Barberry Woods Watershed between Trophy Lake and Sailfish Drive.**

- a. **Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement Agreement**
 - b. **Plat**

Mr. Fountain explained the item.

On a motion by Mayor Cogswell, seconded by Councilmember Gregg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Item E1.

2. **Authorization to notify SCOOT that the City intends to accept maintenance of approximately 4042 SF of concrete sidewalk and 50 LF of concrete ramp and retaining wall on North Romney Street (S-1867) in conjunction with the Foundry Point Sidewalk Improvement project.**
3. **Authorization to notify SCOOT that the City intends to accept maintenance of approximately 28 LF of granite curb on Coming St. (S-553) and 47 LF of granite curb on George Street (S-863) in conjunction with the Stern Center Renovation project.**

Mr. Keane explained that Items E2 and E3 were related to the City accepting the maintenance responsibilities for the improvements requested by SCDOT.

On a motion by Councilmember Gregg, seconded by Mayor Cogswell, the Committee voted unanimously to take Items E2 and E3 together.

On a motion by Councilmember Gregg, seconded by Mayor Cogswell, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Items E2-E3

Councilmember Parker asked why the City would need to maintain the concrete sidewalk.

Mr. Keane said he had asked SCDOT the same question. For the apartments built on Foundry Street, the grades that appeared there, the City required and approved a design that resulted in a retaining wall and ramp system, which SCDOT would not take and which precipitated the request for the City to maintain it.

4. **Acceptance and dedication of Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement Agreements in Ferguson Village on property owned by John Grant, Ida Hamilton, Julia Henderson, Samuel Washington, Sandra Campbell, and Laverne Richardson in Ferguson Village, TMS #'s 337-00-00-110, 337-00-00-044, 337-00-00-096, 337-00-00-337, 337-00-00-112, and 337-00-00-034.**

- a. **Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement Agreements**

Mr. Fountain said this was the first round of drainage easements they had been able to acquire in Ferguson Village. Improvements to the drainage in that Community would continue to be made. Having made prior improvements with the DOT in the Charleston Museum area downstream, now

they were working through the neighborhood, acquiring drainage easements so ditches would be cleaned and drainage improved. The project would be considered small project allocation work and, therefore, be at no cost to the City other than maintenance.

Chair Waring said thanks should go to Mr. Fountain for his work with small allocation.

On a motion by Councilmember Parker, seconded by Councilmember Gregg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Item E4a.

F. Temporary Encroachments Approved by The Department of Public Service (For information only)

1. 125 Nobels Point St.- Installing irrigation encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
2. 140 Ithecaw St.- Installing irrigation encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
3. 151 River Green Pl. - Installing irrigation encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
4. 417 Wayfaring Pt. - Installing irrigation encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
5. 3128 S. Shore Dr. - Installing irrigation encroaching into City right way. This encroachment is temporary.
6. 19 Broad St. (Bagels by Kiss) - Installing sign encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
7. 285 Meeting St. (Regions) - Installing awning encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.
8. 481 King St. (Kilwins) - Installing blade sign encroaching into City right of way. This encroachment is temporary.

Mr. Keane said the items were standard encroachments presented for information only.

G. Public Service Department Update

1. Director Updates

Mr. Alltop said blue stonework was being done on Rutledge, and they were removing trip hazards from Bull to Beaufain Streets. A contractor was also working on Wentworth, replacing some of the blue stones where there had been some trips and falls. He said Trident Waste was taking over Daniel Island the following week. Things had been a real struggle lately, and he was looking forward to having Trident in place.

Councilmember Parker thanked Mr. Alltop and his crew for doing such a great job, especially since it was spring and many residents were clearing their yards.

Councilmember Gregg and Chair Waring also recognized and thanked Mr. Alltop and his crew.

H. Stormwater Management Department Update

1. Brittlebank Emergency Repair - Approval for an emergency repair at Brittlebank Park and Lockwood Drive with B&C Land Development in the amount of \$340,169.00. The repair would include cured in place piping for 1,046

linear feet for pipe diameters 24" and 36". Funding for this will come from the 2025 Small Projects allocation in the Stormwater Operating Budget.

Mr. Fountain said this was for an emergency repair authorization for a drainage system that runs through Brittlebank Park and Lockwood. Work to correct the issue had been attempted in this area previously, including in-house spot repairs and a round of complex repairs by a contractor costing close to \$30,000. Neither of the repairs proved to be successful. They were now at the point of having to line the pipe using trenchless technology. The cost will be \$340,169 for over 1000 feet of pipe.

Chair Waring asked if this was something that could be torn up later.

Mr. Fountain said he could show Chair Waring a map.

Chair Waring asked him to explain further as to what had happened.

Mr. Fountain said the issue was related to the leakage of potential leachate material into the waterway through the pipe system. A camera inspection and cleaning were done. Several breaks were present within the old pipe system where the two spot repairs had been made. Short-term initial improvements were made, but there was still leakage. The pipe was currently sitting in an old landfill within Brittlebank Park and would not be replaced. Instead, the pipe would be fitted with a liner, which was less expensive and should resolve the issue within the pipe and prevent any infiltration.

On a motion by Councilmember Gregg, seconded by Mayor Cogswell, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Item H1.

I. Miscellaneous Business

Chair Waring thanked Mr. Somerville for the work done on Raoul Wallenberg Boulevard. The lines of a crosswalk had faded with families traveling to the local Synagogue. Although it was not a City roadway, the issue presented an emergency safety hazard for residents. Mr. Somerville addressed the problem, assembled a team, and had the crosswalk lines repainted.

Chair Waring also thanked Mr. Keane for his assistance with a parking issue on a new commercial property in West Ashley. Mr. Keane was able to clear things up in a week that had been pending for months.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Sheila Smith
Clerk of Council's Office