CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
Standing Committee on Sustainability and Transportation
Councilor Spencer Thibodeau (D2), Chair
Councilor Belinda Ray (D1)
Councilor Brian Batson (D3)

Minutes
June 20, 2018

Members Present: Councilor Thibodeau, Councilor Ray, Councilor Batson
Staff Present: Troy Moon, Chris Branch, Jon Jennings, City Manager, Mona Bector, Assistant City Manager, Councilor Pious Ali, Mayor Ethan Strimling

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM.

Martin Luther King Recognition

Council Thibodeau addressed the committee and the public that this topic will be postponed indefinitely. The City Manager's Office will be taking an inward look at an existing public space to dedicate/name a memorial for Dr. King. The City Manager's office will continue to work on this with funding of $50,000 to $100,000.

Councilor Ali thanked the Task Force for all of their hard work on this project and for the Sustainability and Transportations Committee's support for this important topic.

Councilor Ray mentioned that they will not be considering renaming the Franklin Arterial.

Mayor Stremling asked what is the City Manager being tasked with.

City Manager, Jon Jennings replied that his office will be exploring different locations within the city for a memorial for Martin Luther King. Once this is found, our a few sites are desired, we will bring it back to this committee for review and public comment. It will also be presented to the City Council. It's the cities desire to have Dr. King's memorial to be an educational experience of his mission/life. If anyone has any ideas/suggestions, feel free to contact the City Manager's office

Sustainability Updates/Smart City Projects

LED Street Light Conversion - We are currently 90% completed. The control network is 50% completed. In August we should be completed with both items. An item that has set us behind

is changing the fuse size in the lights. We had to wait for CMP to approve the change and then order the new ones.

Adaptive Traffic Control Signals at Morrills Corner - All the signals detect vehicles from a greater distance and report to the hub, this allows the signals to time in a more integrated way. This will improve flow by 30%. This is cutting edge technology. They are doing this in Pittsburgh and Atlanta. We will be going live in July.

Free Public Wifi - The pilot areas are Post Office Park, Tommy's Park and Monument Square. We are gauging the usage right now. May possibly look to expand to Commercial Street next, but no decisions have been made at this time.

Colored LIghts at City Hall - The old lighting, had to have staff physically change the lights. Worked with a lighting designers to change colors. Other groups and civic events will be able to request a certain color.   Lights at Deering Oaks had failed and with there upgrade they can also convey color. Also, upgraded the outside lighting at the Kiwanis Pool, Payson Park Softball field and the Reiche Community Center.

Had a request from the City of Boston regarding renewable energy. Will be able to update the committee in September on how they are doing.

Presentation Regarding Ocean Avenue Landfill and Solar Project

Troy Moon discussed the solar project. It is a 660 kw array. The city has a power purchase agreement with ReVision Energy. We will create enough energy (1.3m kw hours a year) to cover the usage at City Hall and Merrill. Currently, we are waiting for a permit from the DEP for the solar. We have met all of their requirements.

Chris Branch discussed the landfill. There was some cover issues (cap). Geoprobe was referenced and recorded. Everything has been reviewed and approved by the DEP. Of those that were probed, 90% did not meet the 24-inch cover. We will need to go in and add clay. After the clay is installed, we will add the 6-inches of loam.

The plan is to have the design work done by summer. Go to bid by October/November and start construction in 2019, with the option to start over the winter with DEP approval if the contractor wanted to start earlier. There is a end of year 2019 deadline.